Country Contentments:

Or,

The Husbandmans Recreations.

Containing the Wholesome Experiences, in which any man ought to Recreate himselfe after the toyle of more serious Businesse.

As namely, Hunting, Hawking, Coursing with Grey-hounds and the lawes of the Lease, Shooting in Long-bowe or Crosse-bowe, Bowling, Tennis, Baloone. The whole Art of Angling, and the vse of the *Fighting Cocke.*

By G. M.

The fourth Edition.

Newly Corrected, Enlarged, and Adorned with many excellent Additions, as may appeare by this marke, ☞

LONDON,
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Country Contentments:

Or,

The Husbandmans Recreations.

Containing the Inducements, Encouragements, and Allurements unto Husbandry: As also Directions for Planting, Ordering, and Improving of Orchards and Gardens. Together with the Nature, Breeding, Ordering, and Curing of all sorts of Cattel, Horses, Sheep, Hogs, Goats, Conies, Bees, Doves, Poultry, Pidgeons, Peacocks, Turkies, Pheasants, Partridges, Quails, Fowl, Fish, &c. Also the Husbandry of Hemp, Flax, Saffron, Liquorice, Rape, Woad, Madder, Teasels, Coleseed, Carraways, Coriander, Fennel, Anniseed, Cummin, Hops, Tobacco, Melons, Pompions, Gourds, Cucumbers, Skirrets, Potatoes, Artichokes, Parsnips, Carrots, Turnips, Radish, Onions, Leeks, Cabbages, Colliflowers, Lettice, Endive, Succory, Spinage, Purslain, Beets, Orach, Rampions, Rocket, Cresses, Mustard, Sorrel, Parsly, Sage, Hyssop, Savory, Time, Winter-savory, Marjoram, Penny-royal, Balm, Mint, Rue, Tansie, Wormwood, Camomile, Lavender, Rosemary, Lavender-cotton, Southernwood, Lovage, Basil, Tarragon, Germander, Pellitory, Clary, Bugloss, Alkanet, Marigolds, Violets, Primroses, Cowslips, Daffodils, Tulips, Crocus's, Irises, Gilliflowers, Sweet-Williams, Stock-gilliflowers, Wall-flowers, Bachelors-buttons, Larkspurs, Columbines, Campions, Holyhocks, Sunflowers, Lupines, Scarlet-beans, Peas, Beans, Roses, Jasmine, Honeysuckles, Woodbines, Vines, Rosemary, Bays, Myrtles, Oranges, Lemons, Citrons, Pomegranates, Figs, Almonds, Cherries, Plums, Peaches, Nectarines, Apricocks, Pears, Apples, Quinces, Medlers, Services, Walnuts, Filberts, Chestnuts, Barberries, Grapes, Gooseberries, Currans, Raspberries, Strawberries, Mulberries, Hurtleberries, Cornelians, Sloes, Hawes, Hips, Heps, Bullises, Rasps, Cranberries, Samphire, Asparagus, Artichokes, Cardons, Cucumbers, Melons, Pompions, Gourds, Potatoes, Skirrets

To the thrice Noble and vertuous Maintainer and furtherer of all lawfull and worthy pleasures Sir THEODORE NEVVTON Knight.

SIr, howsoeuer banished by the necessitie of mine affaires from your presence (in which once I built the best and happiest estate of my life, beginning to loue it because I found you did imploy it, yet can I neuer be seperated from your remembrance, because it is all the ioy which is likely to liue and die with me; witnesse my Soule that shewes me no worldly lesson, so much as the beneficiall fauours I haue reapt from your vertue, which to acknowledge with a more earnest and serious feruencie, I haue spent this poore Booke to kisse your hand, and speake to you in plaine and short rules those speeches which you haue beene willing to heare from my mouth, not doubting but they shall giue you satisfaction, and make me liue both with you, and the inheritors of your vertues to the last age? they are true and easie, drawne from these last times, not borrowed to bestow with a flattering insinuation, but faithfully drawne from art, and from those experiments which I once thought should haue slept in the

graue with me: but hauing liued so long from your eies which I protest my soule truelie loues) I studied to thinke what gratefull Embassador I might send to speake I loue you, and finding none which I thought you would better beare then this, I furnisht him with the best instructions I could, and sent him onely attired in his owne vertue to tell you what I doe, and what I will doe is euer to liue and die at your Seruice.

Gervase Markham.

To the best disposed Readers.

MAny and sundry may be the constructions and censures of this Booke (Courteous and well disposed Reader) because I haue in former time written so largely of some part of the subiect contained herein; but I would haue no man mistaken in his owne preiudicate opinion, but truly vnderstand that this is neither epitomy, relation, extraction, nor repetition either of mine owne, or any other Author whatsoeuer, but a plaine forme of doing things by a neerer and more easie and safer way then euer hath hitherto beene discouered, drawne from our latest experiments in true Art, and finding a neerer way to our ends by many degrees: for what before could not be done in diuers yeares, here you shall see how to effect in few moneths, & what we bestowed moneths vpon to seeke, now we may finde in few weekes. The reasons which induc't me to this labour were these, first to giue satisfaction to the friends and fauorers of my former works, that when they heare men discourse of these passages to our delights, they may yet know that the first was neither ill nor vaine, but what now is deriued from it, and that albe we may be lesse curious, yet the curiosity is not altogether vnprofitable, but both ioyned together may make an absolute vnderstanding. Then to giue ease and light burthen to the heauie and duller memory, whom the tediousnes of a great worke may discourage:

and laſtly becauſe my former labour is vtterly out of print, whereby the Kingdome is depriued the benefit I intended: I thought good to haue ſomething liuing of leſſe price, and as great (perhaps greater) profit, which ſhould ſatisfie all vertuous minds in any thing required, within the compaſſe of thoſe former ſhewed Recreations; not doubting but howſoeuer Men may firſt giue a light ſuruay to theſe papers, yet if they once take paines to read them, they will after affirme them worthy of choice boſomes: And with this ſetled reſolution I leaue them to thy view, and thee to thine owne reſt.

Euer one, Geruaſe Markham.

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Countrey

COVNTREY

CONTENTMENTS:

OR,

The Husband-Mans Recreation: containing the wholesome Exercises, in which any man ought to Recreate himselfe, after the toyle of more serious businesse.

The first Booke.

CHAP. I.

Of Hunting, and of all the particular knowledges belonging thereunto.

HAuing already in my former Worke of the *English-Husbandman*, set forth in sufficient largenesse, the toile and industrious labours of the carefull *Husbandman*, and how both his minde and body ought in euery season to be imployed, for the effecting and bringing foorth of those wholesome profits, which God hath appointed for the maintenance of him, and his Family. And in the Booke last going before, called *Cheape and Good*, shewed the Cure and maintenance of his Cattle and creatures bred by him, and his labours, through Gods great Blessings.

I thinke it not amiſſe here to ſpeake of thoſe lawfull and praiſe-worthy exerciſes or recreations, in which (with Gods feare, and care of not offending his neighbour) he may ſoberly ſpend thoſe houres which he ſhall beſtowe in the cheerefull reuiuing & ſtirring vp of his ſpirits, being formerly wearied or foredone with the heauy toile of more vnpleaſant (though more profitable) ſtudies, both becauſe it is intended that a man ſo good & vertuous as the true *Husband-man* is, ſhould not be depriued any comfort, or felicity, which the earth, or the creatures of the earth can affoord to him, being indeed the right Lord and Maſter (next vnder God) of them both; as alſo for the neceſſity thereof, beeing the ſtrength and inabler of the minde, to vndergoe the weightieſt affaires that can any way poiſe, or beare downe imagination.

The neceſſity and vſe of recreation.

Hence it comes that the heathen Sages or wiſe men of the firſt world, founded with their Lawes, their feaſts, with their *Labours* their *Olimpicks*, and with their warfare, their *Triumphs*, nay, at this day wee ſee the ſeuereſt pedants will giue their ſchollers their play-day; and the moſt couetous maſters will binde their hirelings but to certaine houres; euery toile exacting (as out of duty) ſome time for recreation: Neither was there any *Stoicke* found ſo cruell, either to himſelfe or nature, but at ſome time or other he would vnbend his minde, & giue it liberty to ſtray into ſome more pleaſant walkes, then the myry waies of his owne wilfull reſolutions. As I haue obſerued in the courſe of many men of exceeding ſtrickt liues, to whom all bee ſeuerity of profeſſion, infirmity of body, and age, or ſuch like haue taken away all actuall recreation, yet haue their mindes begot vnto themſelues ſome habites or cuſtomes of delight, which haue in as large meaſure giuen them content-

ment,

ment, whether they were their owne, or borrowed, as if they had been the ſole Actors of the ſame.

But why wade I thus far in this vntroubled ſtreame, let it ſuffice then, that as Recreation is moſt neceſſary, ſo to none it is more due, then to the *Husband-man*: and herein you may not expect, that I will goe about to elect and preſcribe what recreation he ſhall vſe, binding all men to one pleaſure? God forbid: my purpoſe is meerly contrary: for I know in mens recreations, that nature taketh to herſelfe an eſpeciall prerogatiue, and what to one is moſt pleaſant, to another is moſt offenſiue: ſome ſeeking to ſatisfie the mind, ſome the body, and ſome both in a ioynt motion.

I will therefore, as far as my skill and knowledge will extend, figure forth to the life euery ſeuerall recreation, leauing no limbe or member imperfect, and then leaue vnto the choiſe of the *Husband-man*, that which ſhall beſt agree with his ſpirit, not doubting but as they are in themſelues lawfull & modeſt, ſo he will vſe them according to the worthines of his owne and their vertues. Now for as much as theſe ſports are many and diuers, I thinke it not amiſſe to begin & giue that recreation precedencie of place, which in mine opinion (how euer it may be eſteemed partial) doth many degrees go before, & preceede all other, as being moſt royall for the ſtatelines thereof, moſt artificiall for the wiſdome & cunning thereof, and moſt manly & warlike for the vſe and indurance thereof. And this I hold to be the hunting of wild Beaſts in generall: of which, as the Chaſes are many, ſo will I ſpeake of them particularly in their proper places. The praiſe of Hunting.

But before I proceed any further I will tell you what *Hunting* is, and from the true definition thereof, make your waie more eaſie and plaine into the hidden Art What Hunting is.

ot the ſame. *Hunting* is then a curious ſearch or conqueſt of one Beaſt ouer another, perſued by a naturall inſtinct of emitie, and accomplished by the diuerſities and diſtinction of ſmels onelie, wherein *Nature* equally deuiding her cunning giueth both to the offender, and offended ſtrange knowledge both of offence and ſafety. In this recreation is to be ſeene the wonderfull power of God in his creatures, and how far rage and pollicie can preuaile againſt innocency and wiſedom: But to proceed to my maine purpoſe, you ſhall vnderſtand that as the Chaſes are many which we daily hunt, as that of the *Stagge*, the *Buck*, the *Roe*, the *Hare*, the *Fox*, the *Badger*, the *Otter*, the *Boare*, the *Goate*, and ſuch like, ſo the perſuers or conquerors of theſe chaſes (ſpeaking of *Hunting* only) are but one kinde of creatures, namely, *Hounds*. Now of theſe *hounds* there are diuers kinds, as the *Slow-hound*, which is a large great dog, tall, & heauy, & are bred for the moſt part in the Weſt countries of this Kingdome, as alſo in *Ches ſhire*, & *Lanca-ſhire*, and moſt woodland, and Mountanous Countryes: then the middle ſiz'd dog, which is more fit for the Chaſe, being of a more nimble compoſure, and are bred in *Worſter ſhire*, *Bedford-ſhire* & many other weil mixt ſoiles, where the Champaigne, and couert are of equall largeneſſe, then the light, nimble, ſwift ſlender dog, which is bred in the North parts of this kingdome, as *Yorke ſhire*, *Cumberland*, *Northumberland*, and many other plain champaign countryes: and laſtly the little *Beagle*, which may be carried in a mans glooue, and are bred in many countries for delight only, being of curious ſents, and paſſing cunning in their hunting, for the moſt part tiring, (but ſeldome killing) the prey, except at ſome ſtrange aduantage.

The diuerſitie of Chaſes.

The diuerſitie of hounds.

Theſe *hounds* are of diuers colours, and according to

their colours, ſo we elect them for the Chaſe as thus for example. The white hound, or the white with blacke ſpots, or the white with ſome few liuer ſpots are the moſt principal beſt to compoſe your Kennel off, and wil indeede hunt any Chaſe exceeding well, eſpecially the *Hare*, *Stagge*, *Bucke*, *Roe*, or *Otter*, for they will well endure both woods, and waters: yet if you demand which is the beſt, and moſt beautifull of all colours for the generall Kennell, then I anſwer the white with the blacke eares, and blacke ſpot at the ſetting on of the taile, and are euer found both of good ſent, and good condition. The blacke hound, the blacke tann'd, or he that is all liuer-hewd, or the milke white, which is the true *Talbot*, are beſt for the ſtring or lyam, for they doe delight moſt in blood, and haue a naturall inclination to hunt dry-foot, and of theſe the largeſt are euer beſt, and moſt comely. The griſſeld which are euer moſt commonly ſhag-haird, or any other colour, whether it be mixt, or vnmixt, ſo it be ſhag-haird are the beſt varminers, and therefore are choſen to hunt the *Fox*, *Badger*, or any other hot ſent: they are alſo exceeding good & cunning finders: and therefore of *Huntſmen* not thought amiſſe to haue one or a couple in euery Kennell.

For the ſhape of your *Hound*, it muſt be according to the climate where he is bred, and according to the naturall compoſition of his body, as thus, if you would chooſe a large, heauy, ſlow, true *Talbot*-like hound, you muſt choſe him which hath a round, big, thick head, with a ſhort note, vpriſing, and large open noſtrels, which ſhews that he is of a good and quick ſent, his eares exceeding large, thin, and down hanging much lower then his chaps, and the flews of his vpper lips almoſt two inches lower then his nether chaps, which ſhews a merry deep mouth,

The ſhape and proportion of Hounds.

mouth, and a loud ringer, his backe strong and straight, yet rather rising, then inwardly yeelding, which shewes much toughnesse and indurance, his fillets would be thick, and great, which approue a quicke gathering vp of his legs without paine, his huckle bones round, and hidden, which shews he will not tyer, his thighs round, and his hams straight, which shews swiftnesse, his taile long, and full growne, that is big at the setting on, and small downward, which shews a perfect strong chine, and a good wind, the haire vnder his belly hard, & stiffe, which shews willingnes and ability to endure labour in all weathers, and in all places, his legs large, and leane, which shews nimblenes in leaping, or climing, his foot round, high huckled, and well clawd, with a dry hard soale, which shews he will neuer surbait, and the generall composure of his body, so iust, and euen, that no leuell may distinguish whether his hinder, or fore-part be the higher, all which shew him of much ability, & that in his labour he will seldome finde any annoyance: but if you will chuse a swift light *hound*, then must his head be more slender & his nose more long, his eares & flews more shallow, his backe broad, his belly gaunt, his taile small, his ioynts long, his foot round, and his generall composure much more slender, and Gray-hound-like: and thus in the generallity for the most part, and all your *Yorke shire* hounds, whose vertues I can praise no further then for sent and swiftnes, for to speake of their mouths, they haue only a little sharpe sweetnes like a ligge, but no depth or ground like more solemne musicke.

The composition of kennells

Now to speake of the composition of Kennels, though there is a most certaine knowne better-hood, yet it is to men like bewty, each allowing best of that which agrees with his owne affection: therefore when you intend to

set vp a Kennell of *Hounds*, examine your fancy what be the best pleasures you take in *Hounds*, whether it be cunning in *Hunting*, sweetnesse, loudnesse, or deepenesse of eare, whether it be for the training of your horse, or else but meerly for the exercise of your owne body, being otherwise subiect to grossenesse and infirmitie, if it bee for cunning *Hunting*, you shall breed your dogges from the slowest and largest of the Northern *hounds*, and the swiftest and slendrest of the West country *Hounds*, being both male, and female approued to be stanch, faire, and euen running, of perfect fine sent, and not giuen to lie off, or looke for aduantages. These *hounds* will neither bee so exceeding slow, that you shall wast many dayes without some fruit of your labour, nor so vnnimble, that you shal need men to helpe them ouer euery hedge, as I haue many times seen to my much wonder, but hauing both strength and nimblenesse, will hold you in continuall delight and exercise: for these middle sized dogs are neither so swift that they will far outrunne the sent, and so fetch many tedious rings to recouer it, nor so slow, that for want of speed they will loose the sent, and let it grow cold by their owne lasinesse, but being euer and anon vpon it, bring the Chase to such a narrow exigent, that the poore Beast shall be forct to try all the skil nature or strength hath lent it to preserue life: and the *hounds* on the other side all their paines, and the *huntsmans* cunning, to vndoe the intricate doubles, skippes, squats, & windings with which they shall be perplexed, and in this mediocrity of *hunting*, shall your eie (if the couert be not to extreame thick) take a perfect viewe of all the art and cunning in euery passage, so that I conclude the middle sized hound, of good strength, sound mouth, and reasonable speed, which will make a horse

The middle sized dog for cunning.

gallop fast, and not runne, is the best for the true Art, and vse of *Hunting*.

For sweetnesse of cry.

If you would haue your Kennell for sweetnesse of cry, then you must compound it of some large dogges, that haue deepe solemne mouthes, and are swift in spending, which must as it were beare the base in the consort, then a double number of roaring, and loud ringing mouthes, which must beare the counter tenor, then some hollow plaine sweete mouthes, which must beare the meane or middle part: and soe with these three parts of musicke you shall make your cry perfect: and heerein you shall obserue that these *Hounds* thus mixt, doe run iust and euen together, and not hang off loose one from another, which is the vildest sight that may be, and you shall vnderstand that this composition is best to be made of the swiftest & largest deep mouthed dog, the slowest middle sizd dog, and the shortest legd slender dog, amongst these you cast in a couple or two of small singing Beagles, which as small trebles may warble amongst them: the cry will be a great deale the more sweeter.

For lowdnesse of cry.

If you would haue your Kennell for loudens of mouth you shall not then choose the hollow deepe mouth, but the loud clanging mouth, which spendeth freely, and sharpely, and as it were redoubleth in the vtterance: and if you mix with them the mouth that roareth, and the mouth that whineth, the crye will bee both the louder, and smarter; and these *Hounds* are for the most part of the middle size, neither extreame tall, nor extreame deepe flewed, such as for the most part your *Shrop-shire*, & pure *Worster-shire* dogs are, and the more equally you compound these mouthes, hauing as many *Roarers*, as *Spenders*, and as many *whiners*, as of either, of

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the other, the louder, and pleasanter your cry will be, especially if it be in sounding tall woods, or vnder the eccho of Rocks.

If you would haue your Kennell for depth of mouth, then you shall compound it of the largest dogges, which haue the greatest mouthes, and deepest flews, such as your *West Countrie, Ches-shire*, and *Lanca shire* dogges are, and to fiue or sixe couple of base mouthes, you shall not adde aboue two couple of Counter-tenors, as many Meanes, and not aboue one couple of Roarers, which being heard but now and then, as at the opening or hitting of a sent, will giue much sweetnesse to the solemnes, and graueneſſe of the cry, and the musick thereof, will bee much more delightfull to the eares of euery beholder. For deepnesse of cry.

If you would haue your Kennell for the trayning of your horse onely, labouring thereby to bring him to the full perfection of speed, truith, and toughnes, then you shal compound your Kennell of the lightest, nimblest and swiftest dogs, such as for the most part all your Northern *hounds* are, which running swiftly away with the Chase will draw your horse vp to that extraordinary speed, that he will forget all ease or loitering, and acquainting himselfe daily with the violence of such exercise, being so familiar therewith, that in the end it will be lesse troublesome to him then a slow gallop, & hence it was and is that the North parts are so famous for the truthe and swiftnesse of their horses aboue all other Countries in this Kingdome: for it is most certaine that their horses are not better bred there, then in other places, but their exercise is much stronger, and violent, through the naturall swiftnes of their *Hounds*, insomuch that vnlesse a horse either out of nature or education, be For trayning of horses.

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brought to a more then ordinary ſpeed, it is impoſſible, that his Maſter ſhould either ſee ſport, or keep company with his companions.

A good caueat for gentlemen.

Therfore I would haue al yong Gentlemen, which are adicted to the delight of *hunting* or Running horſes, by all meanes to traine them vp after the ſwifteſt *hounds*: for it is the greateſt deceite and coſenage a man can beſtow vpon himſelfe, to do the contrary, as I haue ſeene many times in mine owne experience, when a Gentleman who hath ſuppoſed his *hounds* to be ſwift, which indeede were but of a middle ſpeed, and hath ſeene his Horſe follow them all day luſtily and ſtrongly, in euery Chaſe able to commaund the formoſt *hound* at his pleaſure, he hath immediately in his owne iudgement concluded his horſe ſwift and matchable with the beſt, and from that opinion ingaged him againſt a knowne ſwift horſe, for great ſummes of money, then when the day of trial hath beene come, the horſe which had beene trained after ſlow dogs, comming to follow thoſe that were indeed ſwift, haue bin drawne ſo farre beyond the vſual manner of former exerciſe, that he hath giuen ouer the Chaſe before the day hath bin halfe ſpent.

This caueat I giue for all mens inſtructions, becauſe I haue ſeene the loſſe which hath growne thereby: And now to returne to my purpoſe; your Kennel thus compoſed of the ſwifteſt *hounds*, you ſhal as nigh as you can ſort their mouthes into three equal parts of muſicke, that is to ſay, *Baſe*, *Countertenor*, and *Meane*; the *Baſe* are thoſe mouthes which are moſt deepe and ſolempe, and are ſpent out plaine and freely, without redoubling: the *Countertenor* are thoſe which are moſt loud and ringing, whoſe ſharpe ſounds paſſe ſo ſwift, that they ſeeme to doole and make diuiſion; and the *Meane* are thoſe

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which are ſoft and ſweet mouthes, that though plaine, and a little hollow, yet are ſpent ſmooth and freely, yet ſo diſtinctly that a man may count the notes as they open. Of theſe three ſorts of mouthes if your Kennell be (as neere as you can) equally compound, you ſhal finde it moſt perfect and delectable: for though they haue not the thunder and loudneſſe of the great *dogges*, which may be compared to the high wind inſtruments, yet they will haue the tunable ſweetneſſe of the beſt compounded conſorts, and ſure a man may finde as much Art and delight in a Lute, as in an Organ. But here me-thinkes a too tender louer of a horſe ſtands at my elbow, and puls me by the eare with this Obiection, that to traine Horſes after *Dogges* of this exceeding ſwiftneſſe, wil be a labour of that violence which a yong Horſe wil hardly endure: For firſt it wil drawe him ſo ſuddainly from his winde, that it wil breed ſtopping in his body, and choaking vp the paſſages of his breath, hazard the breaking of his Lungs, or the rimme of his belly, as hath bin many times ſeene in Horſes of great mettal: Next the horſe being yong, and vnacquainted with exercíſe, it wil breed in him a wearineſſe and loathing of his labour, and nothing is wel done, that is not done with delight: Laſtly, the horſe being foule of body, and vnpurged, it may melt his greaſe too ſoone, ſtrayne his ſinewes and tender griſtles too much, and breede many diſeaſes, foule, and incurable, of which onely too violent Labour is the ground-worke.

Obiections againſt ſwift hounds.

To this obiection I thus anſwere, that albeit the labor be for the time moſt violent, yet it is not of ſo long continuance as that which is more ſlow, and to run twelue ſcore ſwiftly is not ſo paineful, as to walke twenty miles: for you muſt vnderſtand that theſe ſwift *hounds* out of their

The anſwere.

their mettal and ſwiftneſſe do ſoone ouerſhut and runne beyond the ſent, and then retiring backe vpon it agayne, giue the horſe time to eaſe himſelf, & catch new breath, whereas the ſlower *dogges* carrying the ſent euer before them, keep your horſe to a continual Labour, which is more paineful, and makes him a tough enduring Lackey, but not a moſt ſwift running Gentleman, beſides the many faults, caſtings about of the ſwift *dogges*, adde ſuch a comfort vnto the horſe, who perceiueth the ſtrength of his Labour to haue no eaſe til he come vp to thoſe Faults, that he wil out of the willingneſſe of his owne nature, double his courage to purſue them moſt ſwiftly, ſeeing his eaſe is euer the greater, by how much hee keepeth euer neerer to the *hounds*; for the danger of burſting, melting his greaſe, and other infirmities, the diſcretion of the *Rider*, and skil of the *Keeper*, muſt preuent: of whoſe Offices I haue written largely in former Chapters, in the Booke called *Cheape and Good*: for be aſſured, thoſe dangers may happen as wel after the ſloweſt *dogges*, as the ſwifteſt.

Correction of ſwift hounds haſte.

But to my purpoſe, ſince *hounds* are the ſubiect of my diſcourſe: You ſhal vnderſtand that theſe ſwift *hounds* are, as is before ſaid, out of their haſt, nimblenes, and mettal, more ſubiect to make defaults then other *hounds*, yet ful as curious and good of ſent as any other, as you ſhal perceiue by the quicke knowledge and apprehenſion of their owne errors, caſting about of themſelues, and recouering the ſent, and ſo going away with the ſame, before any *Huntſman* can come in to helpe them: yet I would wiſh euery Gentleman-like *Husband man*, in the compoſition of this *Kennel*, to haue ſome ſtaunch olde *dogges* amongſt them, which running more ſoberly, yet cloſe with them, may ſit vpon the ſent, when they ouer-

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ſhut it, and ſo cal them backe, and giue them their loſſe without more trouble. Alſo I would haue both in this Kennel, & euery other, a couple at leaſt of good finders, being *dogge, ſtaunch* of mouth, and not able to open except they lye vpon a certaine trayle: for theſe wil bee great furtherers of your ſport, and make your younger *dogges* a great deale more mute and paineful.

You ſhal alſo in this and al other *kennels* haue at leaſt a couple of good high way *dogs*, that is to ſay, *Hounds* of ſuch cunning and perfect ſcent, that they wil hunt as wel vppon a drye, hard, high-way, (where you cannot pricke foorth the paſſage of your Chaſe) as vppon the freſheſt moulde, or will hunt as truely through flockes of ſheep, or heards of beaſts, as vpon the grounds where few or no beaſts come; theſe are called *Hounds* for the high-way, or guids of the *Kennel*, and are exceeding neceſſary, and fit for all mens pleaſure: for they take from the *Huntſmans*, both ſenſe of paine and anger. Of the high-way hounds,

Laſtly, if you would compoſe a *kennell* onely for the exerciſe of your owne body, or maintenance of health, you ſhall firſt draw into your Conſideration your owne ability, as whether you wil make your exerciſe on foote, or horſe backe. If your delight and ability draw you to hunt on foote, then I would wiſh you to compoſe your *kennel* of the biggeſt and ſloweſt *dogges* you can get reſpecting only cunning *hunting*, and depth of mouth, and this *kennell* you ſhal make ſo *ſtaunch*, and obedient to your commaund, that when they are vpon the hotteſt ſent, or in the earneſtneſs of the chaſe, to ſtep before them and caſt your hunting pole but before their eyes, they ſhall ſuddainly ſtop, and hunt after you in full crye, with no more ſpeede then it ſhall pleaſe you to leade them, and then when you pleaſe, to let them goe before you againe, The Kennell for exerciſe of body.

againe, to passe away with the scent roundly and without stay.

This manner of *Hunting* will carry with it a two-fold delight, the one of inioying the musicke of their voices, the other, the cunning of their noses: each striuing to go before, yet none presuming without leaue to go before: by this rule you shal bring the hotte st scent, and the coldest scent to one manner of swiftnesse, and so neither offend your body with too much, nor too little exercise. But if you wil take your exercise on horseback, because infirmity will not let you runne afoote, then you shall compose your *Kennell* of the slowest of middle sized *Hounds*, who shal haue both good mouthes, and loud, & noses of most ready sent, and perfect hunting: and if you bring these hounds also to the former obedience of stopping, and hunting after you, it will be exceeding good and delightfull, both to your eyes, and eares, and so bring your *Hounds* to temperance & coolenesse in *hunting*, that taking the frenzie and greedinesse of hast from their minds, they will make your sport much longer, and lesse weary then else it would be.

But some will answere me that albeit they haue infirmities, which detaynes them from running a foot, or labouring like lackies or drudges, yet they can endure ordinary and orderly walking, such as shall be fit for any moderate exercise; and therefore they would hunt on foot: yet the great *Hound* they like not for two causes, first his chargeable and troublesome keeping, and next his noisomnesse and pestering company in a house that is but straight, and of no more then necessary vse: To these I answere, that it is good for them to keepe the little smal Mitten *Beagle*, which may be companions for a Ladies Kirtle, and in the field wil hunt as cunningly as a-

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ny Hound whatsoeuer, only their musicke is very small, like reeds, and their pace like their body, onely for exercise, and not for slaughter.

Hauing thus composed your *Kennel* of *Hounds* according to the humor of your own fancy and delight, it shal be meet then that you frame a *Kennel* or house to keepe them in, wherein they may lye dry, and haue their foode and other necessaries about them, without troubling your dwelling house, or giuing offence by their greedinesse or rauening. Of the hounds Kennell.

This *Kennel* for *Hounds* would be placed a pretty distance from your dwelling house, neare some riuer, pond spring, or other fresh water: it would also stand against the side of some banke or hill, which looking directly against the East, the morning Sunne might rise vppon the same, and not loose the sight of it til at least two or three houres after noone, which will bee a great refreshing and comfort vnto the Hounds, which loue naturally to stretch, trim, and picke themselues in the Sunne: against the side of this hill, would be cut or digged diuers large and broad seats one aboue an other, containing at least fiue foot in breadth, and two foote and a halfe in height, which seates would be eyther boorded, or watled with stakes and small wands on the sides to hold vp the earth from falling, and also close boorded aloft, whereon you shal lay fresh and sweet straw for your dogs to lie vpon, the number of these seates would bee according to the number of your Hounds, and the quallity of the earth in largenesse: ouer these seates would be made a close and well tyled Shed, open no way but vppon the East, and in such manner that it may defend either al or most part of the seats from raine, wind, or any tempest: from the loweſt part of these seats forward, you shal make a large The situation of the kennell.

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greene court, being either walled, paled, or otherwise very ſtrongly fenced about, in which your Hounds may play, ſport, ſcummer, and doe other offices of nature fit for their health: alſo in this court, in the moſt conuenient corner of the ſame, you ſhall build a little houſe or Lodge, with a ſpacious and large Chimney in the ſame, wherein in the Winter time you ſhall allow fire, before which (your Dogges returnd from hunting) may ſtretch, picke, dry and trim themſelues, which is an exceeding comfort vnto them, and wil make them more ſtrong and able to endure their labour, and alſo keepe them wonderfully wel, both from the mangy, and other filthy diſeaſes which proceed from colds taken after violent heating. In this Chimney your *Huntſman* ſhall haue a large Cauldron, and other neceſſaries, as Ladels, Skummers, and ſuch like; for preparing and making ready of all ſuch warme meate as you ſhall allow to them, which if it be ſweet is called, Mang, if otherwiſe Carrion, or garbage: aboue this lower roome ſhall be your *Huntſmans* lodging, wherein he ſhall alſo keep his coopples, liams, collars, traſhes, boxes, and pots, with ſalues and ointments, for the cure of ſuch infirmities as ſhall happen amongſt them, and all other neceſſaries any way belonging vnto his Office. In an other part of the court, and neereſt vnto the houſe, you ſhall place troughs and tubs, ſome for their meate, and ſome for ſweet Water; all which muſt be kept very neate and cleane; and Water muſt by no meanes at any time be wanting, yet oft renued; and the veſſels ſcoured for ſweetneſſe ſake: for the *Huntſman* ought to hold it for a Rule, that nothing bringeth more health then cleanneſſe: Into this *kennell* you ſhall by no meanes bring at any time Carrion, becauſe it will make the place vnſauoury, and vnfit for any

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man of worth to looke into, and sure it ought to be a place fit for euery worthy eie.

Now your Kennell being thus orderly, and well Prepared, it is meet that I shew what meate is meetest for *Hounds*; how it shall be prepared, and how they shall be fed: first, then intending that I only speake of *hunting-hounds*, that is to say *hounds* which are in continuall vse and action, you shall vnderstand that in their daies of rest, the strongest and lustiest meate you can giue them both for raysing them vp when they are low hunted, or for keeping them in strength when they haue lust within them: is either horse-flesh newly slaine, and warme at the feeding, the intralls and garbage of Beasts (lungs onely excepted) or the heads, plucks, and bowels of sheepe, or generally any carrion which is not old, nor cold after the death. To feed them for perfectnes of *Hunting*, and to keepe their sents fine, pure, and cleane, or to purge the stench of the carrion out of their noses, that thereby they may vndergoe their worke with more cunning, the best food is to giue them Maug made either of ground Oates, Barley Meale Branne, or mildust well scalded and boyled together, or any of these two mixt together and scalded with beefe-broath, or any other broath, in which flesh hath beene sodden, so as it be not to extreame salt. Of feeding of hounds.

Now for the vse and manner of feeding with these meats (as I said before) horse-flesh, garbage, and other carrion, is onely to breed strength, and lust in a *hound*, and is to be giuen onely when a *Hound* resteth; because the strength and smell of the same will so cloy and stop the *hounds* nostrels that he can hardly distinguish or vndertake any finer sent, and so breed much hinderance to his *hunting*: Therefore you ought euer to feed your

Hounds at least the day before you hunt, if not more, with ſweet meate.

Now for the manner of feeding with horſe-fleſh, or any other carrion, you ſhal bee ſure to haue it a good diſtance from your Kennel, and ſo as it may be no annoyance either to your owne neighbours or trauailers in the high Way; then firſt before your *Hounds* touch it, with your knife take off the skin, then open the body, take out the bowels and rip them, then if the body be more then either your *hounds* can, or muſt eate, take off a Legge, or a ſhoulder, or ſuch part as you thinke fitteſt to preſerue, and lay it by, then let your *Hounds* feed on the reſt, til their bodies be wel filled: which done, draw your *hounds* home, and vpon ſome ſtang for the purpoſe, carry with you that which you ſaued; which as ſoone as you haue ſhut vp your *hounds*, you ſhal beare to the Riuer or freſh Water, and lay it in the ſame vntil you haue occaſion to vſe it: for it wil keep it ſweet a weeke or more at leaſt, if need require.

Now for feeding with Mang, or ſweet meat, it would euer be done the day before you hunt, and as it is to be prepared in the Kennel, ſo you ſhal let them eate it in troughs, within the Kennel, for that wil make them take delight in the place, and this Mangg muſt euer bee giuen warme, and made ſomwhat thicke, and if you white it ouer with Milke, or butter-milke, and if you caſt into it chippings, cruſts of bread, bones, broken meat, or ſcrapings of trenchers, it wil be better, and they wil eate it with more greedineſſe.

Meate for ſicke and weake hounds.

If you haue *Hounds* that are poore, weake, or ſickly, which you would ſuddainly recouer and bring vnto hunting: Then if you take ſheepes heads woole and all, and hacke, hew, and bruiſe them in many peeces, then boile them

them with oatemeale, and penny-royal, and make ſtrong portage of the ſame, and giue altogether warme to your ſicke *hounds*, and it wil ſuddainly recouer them, if once in a Weeke alſo, you giue them a fu meale of warme horſe fleſh, it is very ſoueraigne.

Now for the beſt times of feeding, it is held amongſt all our beſt experienc't *Huntſmen*, to be in the daies of reſt tarely in the morning before Sunne riſe, and in the etiening at Sunne ſet: But in the dayes of *Hunting*, you ſhal let them goe faſting out of the *Kennel*, and feede them as ſoone as you come home to the *Kennel*, or before in your way homeward, if you haue any Horſe-fleſh, or other Carrion readily prouided: otherwiſe with ſuch meat as you haue, ſo it wil fill their bellies, for a *hound* by no meanes would be pinched of his belly after his labour, and therefore be ſure if your meat be courſe to fill his guts wel, if it be ſweet, ſtrong, and comfortable, then leſſe wil ſerue him. Beſt houres of feeding.

And here I thinke it meet to ſpeake of a conuenient proportion of Food, for the maintenance of a *Kennel* of good *Hounds*: Wherein you ſhal vnderſtand that three Buſhels of Oates, or Barley meale, with halfe ſo much branne or Mil-duſt, is a fit weekely proportion to keepe nine or ten couple of *hounds*; with a little help of horſe-fleſh, if the *Huntſman* be any good husband, and painefull as he ought to be in finding out Horſes, ſcraps, cruſts and bones, which almoſt abound in euery mans houſe of any worth or reckoning: and by imploying that which is ſaued in the daies of labour to increaſe the proportion when need ſhal require: Many much large quantities I haue knowne, and doe know allowed at this day in diuers places: but I haue held it abuſe to the Maiſter, and either a couetouſneſſe or negligence in the *Huntſman*, A proportion of meate.

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them with oatemeale, and penny-royal, and make ſtrong portage of the ſame, and giue altogether warme to your ſicke *hounds*, and it wil ſuddainly recouer them, if once in a Weeke alſo, you giue them a fu, meale of warme horſe fleſh, it is very ſoueraigne.

Now for the beſt times of feeding, it is held amongſt all our beſt experienc't *Huntſmen*, to be in the daies of reſt tarely in the morning before Sunne riſe, and in the euening at Sunne ſet: But in the dayes of *Hunting*, you ſhal let them goe faſting out of the *Kennel*, and feede them as ſoone as you come home to the *Kennel*, or before in your way homeward, if you haue any Horſe-fleſh, or other Carrion readily prouided: otherwiſe with ſuch meat as you haue, ſo it wil fill their bellies, for a *hound* by no meanes would be pinched of his belly after his labour, and therefore be ſure if your meat be courſe to fill his guts wel, if it be ſweet, ſtrong, and comfortable, then leſſe wil ſerue him. Beſt houres of feeding.

And here I thinke it meet to ſpeake of a conuenient proportion of Food, for the maintenance of a *Kennel* of good *Hounds*: Wherein you ſhal vnderſtand that three Buſhels of Oates, or Barley meale, with halfe ſo much branne or Mil-duſt, is a fit weekely proportion to keepe nine or ten couple of *hounds*; with a little help of horſe-fleſh, if the *Huntſman* be any good husband, and painefull as he ought to be in finding out Horſes, ſcraps, cruſts and bones, which almoſt abound in euery mans houſe of any worth or reckoning: and by imploying that which is ſaued in the daies of labour to increaſe the proportion when need ſhal require: Many much large quantities I haue knowne, and doe know allowed at this day in diuers places: but I haue held it abuſe to the Maiſter, and either a couetouſneſſe or negligence in the *Huntſman*, A proportion of meate.

by whose vnskilful greedineſſe, I haue ſeene many tyered out of their pleaſures: Therefore bee aſſured this quantity already named wil fully ſuffice; nay, euen to pleaſe a moſt wanton curioſity, and ſurely much leſſe if a paineful *Hunſ-man* haue the gouernment: for I ſhal neuer ſee fairer, or better kept *hounds*, then I haue ſeene maintained with halfe this proportion; but as I would not be too lauliſh in my directions, ſo I would much leſſe be too ſtrait handed; hoping that euery man of honeſty and truſt will order his affaires with diſcretion.

Ordering of hounds after Hunting.

Now for the ordering of your *hounds* after they haue done hunting, you ſhal if you feede them abroad, or otherwiſe as ſoone as you bring them into the *Kennell*, waſh all their feet eyther with a little warme butter and beere, Beefe broth, or water wherein *Mallowes* and *neſtles* haue beene boiled ſoft and tender; you ſhal picke euery cley, and ſearch the foot for thornes, ſtubs, or any other prickings; you ſhal looke that the ſtraw whereon they lie, be ſweet and freſh; and if it be in the ſtrength of winter, after they are fed, you ſhal ſuffer them for an houre or two to beake and ſtretch themſelues before the fire, ere they goe to lye downe for all night, and by no meanes trouble them as long as they licke, picke, or trim themſelues; but that once finiſhed, you ſhal force them from the fire, and make them find out their Lodgings.

Chap. 2.

The curing of all manner of infirmities in Hounds.

NExt vnto theſe precepts, it is meete you be skilful in curing of al the diſeaſes in *hounds*, of which as there be many, ſo heere you ſhal partake many rules for the ſame, both perfect, and excellently approoued by late experience.

experience. And first of al in as much as it is an infirmity of all other most generall, natural, & as it were not to be deuided from *dogs*: I wil beginne with the killing of fleas and lice, & such like vermine in *Hounds*, which proceeds from filthy keeping, rotten and moist lodging, and want of shifting of straw when it growe short by much lying on: if then your *Hound* be troubled with fleas or lice, you shall take Rue or Hearbe of grace foure or fiue hand full, and boyle it in a gallon of running water till a pottle be full consumed; then straine it through a course cloth, and put to it two ounces of strong Staucsaker beaten to powder, and being warme, bath your *Hound* therwith, and it will destroy them.

Of killing fleas and lice.

If your *Hound* be troubled with wormes, which is very general amongst them, especially the yong *Hounds*, then you shall take a pint of new milke & mixe it with a good quantity of Brimstone, and so giue it luke-warme vnto the *Hound*, and it will not onely scower away all manner of wormes, but all other filthinesse bred in the body of a *Hound*, either by labour or surfet.

To kill worms.

If your *Dogge* haue beene bitten by either Snake, Adder, or any other venemous thing, take the hearbe *Calamint* and beate it in a morter, with Turpentine and yel low waxe till it come to a salue, and then apply it to the sore and it will heale it: Also if you boile the hearbe in milke, and giue the *Dogge* it to drinke, it will expell all inward poyson.

Biting with venemous beasts.

If your *Hound* haue beene bitten with another madde *Dogge*, which is a disease exceeding dangerous and mortall, you shall presently wash the place so bitten with Sea water, or a very strong brine, and it will saue and cure him, or els take the hearbe called *Yarrow* and beate a handfull thereof in a morter, with a handfull of wheate

Biting with a mad dog.

till it come to a ſalue, & then lay it to the ſore, and it will heale it, and if you poure into his ſtomacke as much *Methridate* as a haſell nut, diſſolued in ſweet wine, and it will wonderfully ſcoure and preſerue him from the infection of the inward poiſon.

Of a madde dog and the ſignes.

The infirmity of madnes it ſelfe in *Dogs*, is common and oft to be ſeene, and though it be altogether incurable, yet if a man be experienced in the firſt ſignes or characters of madneſſe, he may preuent diuers miſchiefes and moſt mortall euils, which inſue for want of ſuch knowledge, and albe he looſe one *Dogge*, yet he may ſaue all the reſt; the firſt ſignes therefore to know when a *Dogge* is entring into this diſeaſe, is a mellancholy ſeperating himſelfe from other *Dogges*, and walking vp and downe alone, oft caſting vp his head into the wind, and looking vpward, his taile at the ſetting on riſing vpward, and the reſt hanging downe, his mouth will foame and be ful of ſlauer or white froth, as he runneth vp and downe he wil haſtily ſnatch at euery thing that he meeteth with, yet, but onely giue one ſnatch and away, his eies will be red and more fiery then other *Dogges*, and his breath will be ſtrong and of a filthy ſauour, any of theſe ſignes when you ſhall perceiue, you ſhall preſently ſeperate him from other *Dogges* and kill him, for vnto the diſeaſe is no cure.

Of gauling.

If your *Hound* be gauld, or his skinne torne in any part, you ſhall onely take *May* butter, yellow waxe, and a little vnſleakt lime beaten together like a ſalue, and therewith annoint the ſore place, and it is a preſent cure.

Of a tetter.

If your *Hound* (as they are much incident thereunto) haue vpon him any tetter or dry ſcab, you ſhall take of blacke inke, the iuice of mints, and vinegar of each a like quantity, and mixe them together with the powder of

brimſtone

brimstone till it be thicke like a salue, and then annoint the terret therewith till it bleed, and it will doone kill & cure it.

If your *Hound* be troubled with the itch, you shall take nerue-oyle and beat it with quicksilver till the quicksilver be kild, and the salue turned to a pale yellow colour: then with the same annoint the *Dog* before a good fire, and chafe it well in against the haire, and it will cure him. For the itch.

But if your *Hound* be troubled with the scabb or mangy, then you shall take a penny worth or two of the best gunpowder you can buy, and mixing it with very strong wine vinegar, make it thick like puddle: then with the same annoint all the places where he scratcheth till they bleed, and it will kill the mangie; there be others which vse to cast their *dogges* into the Lime-pits of Tanners or Glouers, and force them to swim vp & downe the same and it will kill the mangie, yet there must be a great care taken in putting the *dogges* in, least doing it rashly, the Lime water get into their eies, which is very dangerous and will hazard their burning out. OF the mangy or scab.

If your *hound* shall receiue any wound, whether it be with sharpe or blunt weapon, or any accident whatsoeuer, although his owne tongue bee a soueraine salue, yet if it be in any part, where either he can or cannot licke it; the best cure is to wash it with warme butter and vinegar mixt together, and then anoint it with a little Venice turpentine; but if it be a hollow wound, and must of force be tainted, then you shall either tent it with sweet butter & oatmeale, wrought together to a salue, or with yellow waxe and Deare-suet; there be some that will vse for a taint a small candles end, and it is very good if the tallowe be sweete; but if it bee putrified, Of wounds.

then it will poyſon and corrupt the wounde.

Of a canker in the eare.

If your *hound* be troubled with a canker in his eares, which is a griefe much incident vnto them; you ſhal firſt taint the hole if you find any, with dry corke, and after waſh the ſore with vinegar and Allome, mixt together till the fleſh looke raw, and after drie it with burnt Allome onely.

Of ſurbaiting.

If your *Hound* be ſurbaited, you ſhall waſh his feet with butter and beare boiled together, and then bind to the ſoles of his feet young red nettles chopt verie ſmall, or beaten in a morter till they come to a ſalue.

Of Bruiſes.

For any manner of bruiſe which ſhal happen to your Hound, either by ruſh, ſpurne, ſtroke or otherwiſe, if it appeare and ſwell outwardly; you ſhall bath the place with cheeke weed, and groundſal boiled in ſtrong Ale dregs till they be ſoft, and will allay the ſwelling; but if the bruiſe be inward, then you ſhall with a horne giue the *dogge* a pint of new milke, and a quarter of an ounce of *Sperma Cetæ* well mixt together, or for want of *Sperma Cetæ*, double ſo much ſtone pitch beaten to fine powder.

For the ſtone.

If your *Hound* be troubled with the ſtone or other filthy matter, which maketh him that he cannot piſſe, you ſhall take the ſeeds of the herbe *Granum ſolis*, or *Gromel*, and bruſing them, giue them to the *Hound* in halfe a pint of white wine.

For coſtiuenes

If your *Hound* as it is very naturall to *dogges*) be ſo coſtiue that he can by no meanes skummer, you ſhall firſt take a peece of a tallow candle, about three fingers in length and thruſt it a good way into the tuell of the *Hound*, and then hold downe his tayle hard a quarter of an houre or more, and then giue it liberty, and when he hath emptied his belly, you ſhall giue him to drinke fiue

or sixe spoonefull of Sallet oile, and will clense him sufficiently.

If your *Hound* be troubled with any disease in his eares whether it be a continuall running, or any other impostumation, you shall take verdiuyce and cheruile water, and mix them together, and each morning and euening, drop a spooneful or two thereof into the *dogges* eares, and you shall finde it a present remedie. For any disease in the eares.

If your *dogge* at any time be troubled with sore eies, of what nature or quallity soeuer the griefe be, you shall take a leafe or two of ground iuie, and chewing it well in your mouth, and sucking out the iuyce spit the same into the *dogges* eies morning and euenings, and it will cure them; This ground iuie is a little round rough iagged leafe; and growes in the bottome of hedges. For sore eies.

If your Hound shall happen to breake a legge or any other bone, you shall first with your hand place it in his true place, and see that it stand straight and euen, then bath it in the warme oile of swallows, or the oile of mandrage apples and wrappe it about two or three times, in a seare cloth made of yellow wax and Deare suet, which done splent it with flat splents of wood, and so role it with a strong roler, and let it so rest nine daies at least, before you vnsplent it, but remoue not the seare cloth for fifteene dayes, and you shall see the bone will knit strongly and firmely. For broken bones.

Chap. 3.

Of the breeding of all manner of Hounds.

HAuing thus passed ouer the election of *hounds*, composition of *Kennels*, dieting & curing of all sorts of diseases, I hold it meetest now to folow with some short precepts the breeding of *Hounds*, because it is exceeding

ding hard, for any man to haue a *kennel* of *hounds* from gift or purchace without much imperfection: for though one Friend giue you a good *hound*, another ſell you a good *hound*, yet how their goodneſſes wil agree when they run together, is very diſputable; and truely vnleſſe your *hounds* haue one ſpeed, one tunablenes of voyce, and one manner of *hunting*, your paſtime wil be much diſorderly, which there is no way to get ſo eaſily and truly, as by the breeding of your *hounds*, for one and the ſame birth produceth one and the ſame qualities, therefore hauing a *hound* and a brach of that ſize, voice, ſpeed, ſcent, proportion, and general goodneſſe which agreeth beſt with your owne nature and condition, you ſhal put them together to ingender and breed, eyther in *Ianuary*, *February*, or *March*, according as they ſhal grow proud, for thoſe are the three moſt principall monthes in the yeare, for *hound*, *bitches*, or *brutches*, to be limed in, not but that they may conceiue and bring foorth as good *Whelpes* in other moneths; but becauſe there wil be much loſſe of time in the entring of them, for if a *bratch* be limed in *Ianuary*, ſhe wil Whelpe her Litter in *March*, and ſo they wil be ready to enter in the firſt beginning of hunting time: if ſhe be Limed in *February* ſhee wil whelpe in *April*, and if ſhee be Limed in *March*, ſhee wil whelpe in *May* following, and in all theſe three Moneths there is not a dayes loſſe, for the entring of the whelpes, which is an eſpeciall care to be obſerued of Huntſmen.

Hounds muſt ſuit one another.

The moneths to breede in.

Alſo if you ſhal let your *hounds* ingender in the three moneths aforeſayd, you ſhall not forget to obſerue as neere as you can, that when you put the dog and bitch firſt together, the Moone be eyther in the ſigne *Aquarius* or *Gemini*, for it is held amongſt the beſt Huntſmen

Vnder which ſignes to breed.

of

of this Land, that the whelpes which are ingendred vnder those two signes, wil neuer runne mad, and for the most part, the Litter wil haue at least double so many *dogge whelpes*, as *bitch whelpes*. When your *bratch* is neere whelping, or hath whelped; you shal seperate her from other *hounds*, and haue a priuate *kennel* for her, where shee may be alone without company of other *hounds*, and you shal duly euery night see her *kenneld* in the same, that she may take acquaintance and delight therin, and when you feed her particularly, you shal feed her in that *kennel*, that taking a loue thereto she may not seeke out other vnfit and vnwholsome places to whelpe in: for where a *Bratch* first whelpeth her Litter, if they be remoued, she wil not leaue carrying her whelps vp & down, til she haue found the same place again, or some other perhaps more vnfit then the former, and such carriage of whelps by the Dam is very ill and dangerous: this *kennel* where your whelps shal remaine, shal not be kept close, but open, that the *bratch* may haue liberty to goe vp and downe after twenty foure houres space, which time she shal be kept very wel, close, and warme, that she may performe the natural office of a Damme to her whelps.

Ordering of Bratches after Whelping.

You shall not suffer your Whelpes to sucke aboue two moneths at the most, but then you shal Weane them, and if the house you keep be of great receite, and many Seruants, you shal let your Cooke bring vp your whelps, and your Dairy-maide your second best, and the rest you shall put foorth amongst your Friends, or Tenaunts, according vnto the loue you possesse in the Country.

When to weane Whelpes.

Now when your whelps are brought vp, you shal not enter them into *hunting* before they be at lest a yeare & halfe

When to enter Whelpes.

a halfe olde, as thus, if your Whelps were whelpt in *March*, then you ſhall not enter them vntill *September*, come twelue moneths after: and if they were whelpt in *April*, then you ſhall enter them in *October* come twelue moneths after: And ſo foorth, for the reſt of the moneths.

How to enter Whelpes.

Now for the manner of your entring of whelps, you ſhal draw them abroad in the pleſanteſt of the day, with the moſt ſtaunch and beſt hunting *hounds* you haue, leauing at home all babling and flying Curres, and if you can, you ſhal haue your *hare* ready ſet before you come, (for the *hare* is the principal chaſe you can enter whelps vpon) and then putting her from her forme, and viewing perfectly which way ſhe taketh, after the ſent is a little coo'ed, lay on your *hounds*, and giue them all the aduantages you can for the *hunting* of her, as by *winde*, *view*, *hallow*, or pricking her paſſage, and if they ſhall chance to kill her, you ſhal immediately take her from the *hounds*, and not ſuffer them to breake her, for it is an euill cuſtome: but your ſelfe ſtripping away the skinne, ſhal cut her all to peeces, and giue euery part of her to your yoʳng whelpes, which wil breede in them great courage and delight in *hunting*.

Obſeruations in the entring of whelpes.

You ſhal obſerue in the entring of your yong whelps, that they hunt faire and euen, without aduantage, or ſeeking any way to gaine their owne eaſe, as by lying off from the ſent, thwarting, or croſſing when they are behind to get euen with the formoſt *hounds*: any of which when you ſhal perceiue, you ſhal immediatly beat them in with your Hunting-poale, and compell them to take the ſent before them: alſo if any of them be giddy headed, and out of mettle will run before the other *hounds* cleane from the ſent, in this caſe alſo you ſhal beat them

ſoundly

ſoundly backe, and bring him back to the ſent, and force him to take it with the reſt of the *Kennell*. Alſo if any young *hound* wil not ſtrike vpon a default, but run babling away without the ſent, drawing away the reſt of the *Kennel* to follow him; in this caſe alſo you ſhal ſcourge him backe, and compel him to ſtand and labour vppon the default, til ſome of the elder *hounds* vnder take it, then you ſhal cheriſh all, both with *horne* and voyce into the Chaſe.

Laſtly, if you finde that any of your young Whelpes truſt more to his owne ſent, then to the reſt of his fellowes, and ſo by that meanes hunteth at leaſt twenty ſcore ſometimes behind the reſt, making his defaults by his owne noſe, and not their owne leading, yet hunteth very iuſt and true: In this caſe you ſhal by no meanes ouergoe, or ouer ride the Whelpe: but giue him all comfort and encouragement you can, and let him take his owne time and leiſure, for vſe and experience wil quickly make him skilful, and the skill will ſoone carry him vp, amongſt his fellowes, where he wil ſoone become a principal Leader: and thus much for *Hounds*, and the compoſition of *Kennels*.

Chap. 4.

Of all the ſeuerall Chaſes which Hounds are to hunt.

THere hath already (by many wel experienced men) bin ſo much written of this Subiect, that I know not wel what to write, except I ſhould in ſome ſort repeate an other mans tale: from which I am ſo far differene (hauing vowed to my ſelfe, by no meanes to meddle with any thing formerly written) that the ſtricteſt examiner whatſoeuer, ſhal not find me guilty of the leaſt blemiſh therein,

therein, yet since I must necessarily in this case Write something, I wil as briefly as I can let downe some materiall and special notes, and for the maine Substance, if they desire a long continued circumstance (though this is sufficient for any vnderstanding wit) referre them vnto old *Tristram* Booke, translated by Mr. *Turbervile*, and such other Bookes, where they may find compleate satisfaction.

Of the Stagge and his properties.

To speake then first of the *Stagge*, which is the most Princely and royal Chase of all Chases, and for whom indeede, this Art of *Hunting* was first found out, and inuented, he is of all Beasts the goodliest, statelyest, and most manly, and for the vse of Man the fullest both of outward and inward profite, as in his flesh for the nourishment of mans body, and in his other members for helpes in physicke, as the bone in his heart, which is Soueraigne for all inward faint sicknesses, for poyson, the Plague, and hard Trauaile in Women: his blood excellent for all kind of Fluxes, and to make the skin white and smooth: his pizel good for the Cholicke and bloody fluxe: His Horne a most Soueraigne Cordiall against venome: his Suet good for swellings, Gouts, and Humors, and his skinne, which is euer a during and Gentleman-lye cloathing, and of Stagges, the oldest and greatest is the best.

How to know a old Stagge.

The perfect signes to know an olde *Stagge* by, are these; if when you take his view vppon the ground, you see he hath a large foote, a thicke heele, and a deep printing, an open cleft, and a long space, then be assured he is olde, also if his legge be long, and his bone thicke, it shewes age, besides your old *Stag* doeth not ouer-reach when your yonger Deere doth, also you shal know his age by his ordure, as thus, if it be pointed (as it wil be

from

from *July* to *August*) or writhen round, or flat, or broad, as it wil be in *June*, and there witha be grosse and fatty, then he is an old Stag: but if contrarily smal and dry, then he is but a yong Deere; againe you shal know his age by the tines of the hornes, for if he haue ten, twelue or fourteene tines, hee is a Deere of reasonable age, but if the beame be thick, and great, then he is an old Deere, so if he carry but some sixe or eight tines, and a smal beame, then he is a yong Deere, and not aboue three or foure yeares old, for the red Deere is said the first year to haue no head, the second but only daggers, and the third tines.

The cast of Heads.

Stags yearely cast their heads in *March, April, May*, or *June*, and in no other months, according to the goodnesse of the soile wherein they feede, for the richest ground beareth euer the earliest Deere, and a Deere is neuer sayd to be in season, nor may he by good rule be hunted til he haue cast his head.

How to finde a Deere.

The principallest quality in a *Huntsman* is to know how and where to find a Deere, for if he be ignorant in their haunts, he may wander long, & lose much labour. Therefore he shal know that a red Deere naturally hunteth in *November* amongst Furres, Winnes, or thicke shrubs. In *December* amongst thick and strong woods. In *January* in Corne-fields of Wheat and Rie: In *February* and *March* amongst young and thick bushes: In *April* and *May* in Coppises and Springs: In *June* and *July* in outwoods, and purlews which are neerest vnto greene Corne: and in *September* and *October*, after the first showers of raine, they go to Rut.

Now when the *Huntsman* wil at any time search any of these places to finde his game, he must be carefull by no meanes to go downe, but vp the winde, for a Deere is of most dainty sent, and vpon the least fault wil flye and leaue

leaue his feed: therfore he must come charely and closely, with a quicke eare, and a ready eye.

Now for the best time to finde out your Game, is early, before Sunne rise, at which time the Deere goeth to his food: from whence you shal warch vnto his Leire, and hauing lodged him, you may returne home, and prepare al things for the dayes hunting: for be assured, except violently compeld, he wil not stirre vntill Euening.

The Hunting of the Stagge.

Now for the manner of his hunting: you shal first cast off your finders, neere his place of lodging, & after they haue hunted him about a ring or two, you shal cast in the rest of your *hounds*, and being in ful crye and maine chase, you shal giue him comfort both with Horne and Voyce, then as soone as you can possibly, you shal get sight of the Deare, and take what especial notes or markes you can from him; so that as much as is possible you may know him from any other Deare, then at euery default, as soone as the *hounds* are in cry againe, you shal make into the hunted Deare and viewe him, and if you finde it to be a fresh Deare, you shal rate the Dogs, and bring them backe to the default, and there make them cast about againe, vntil they haue vndertaken the first hunted Deare, then giue them comfort by hollowing and Gibelts, and so continue the chase til you haue either set vp the Deare or slaine him, euer and anon hauing a Watchful eye vnto change, for it is the nature of a Deare, when he is once imbost, or weary, to seek where he may find another Deare, and to beate him vp and lay himselfe downe in his place.

To know when a Stagge is weary, you shal see him imbost, that is, foaming and slauering about the mouth with a thicke white froth, his haire wil looke blacke, shi-

To know when a Stag is weary

ning

ning and foule with ſweat, and he wil tappiſh oft; that is, he wil euer and anon be lying down and lurking in darke holes and corners, and for his laſt Refuge he wil betake himſelfe to the ſoile: which is, he wil leape (if he can) into Riuers, ponds, or other water, out of which you ſhal force him either by art or ſtrength: And thus much for the Chaſe or hunting of the Stagge.

Now for the Hunting of the Bucke: for as much as they are moſt vſually kept in Parkes, and that euery Keeper, which is worthy to be a Keeper, may ſooner from his owne experience then from any Reading, get the experience of the ground he tendeth, and ſith he is bound both by the Lawes of Hunt-ſmen and good manners to giue euery man contentment that is priuiledged to hunt in his ground: And ſith whoſoeuer can hunt a Stagge wel, cannot hunt a Bucke ill, the red Deere being euer far more curious to hunt, then the Fallow: I wil not ſpend any more time to write of it, but refer you to thoſe rules which are already Rehearſed. Of the Bucke.

Touching the hunting of the *Hare*, which is euery honeſt man, and good mans chaſe, and which indeed is the freeſt, readieſt, and moſt enduring paſtime, and likewiſe in its owne kind, full of good profit for mans Preſeruation: For though the beaſt be but little, yet are the members worth inioyment; as the fleſh, which is good for all manner of Fluxes: the Braines good to make children breed their teeth with eaſe: the wool excellent to ſtench blood: the Gal ſouereign for ſore eies; the blood which will kill Rhume, wormes; and the ſtuffing bone, which being worne, take away the paine of the Cramp, with many other good things beſides. Of the Hare. Of her profits.

Touching the hunting of the *Hare*, you are firſt to regard the place of hunting, as whether it be in woods, or The Hunting of the Hare.

champaigne; if in woods, you shall not cast off your dogs in the thickest of the couert, but rather beat the bushe close, or shrubie ground neare adioyning to the couert: for though in the woods you may sooner find a *hare*, yet commonlie you shall finde such change therewithall, that you shall hardly bring any forth to west your pleasure, where on the contrary part, if you finde any in those neighbouring grounds, she will presently fly foorth into the champaigne: because naturally a *hare* will refuse the couert, till she beginne to be weary, & a *hare* being once heated, is not so easily lost vpon a fresh change; as when the sents are of equall coolenes, if you hunt in the champaigne, you shall first beat those places which are most likely, as where Gorse or whinnes grow, or in grounds that are full of tuskes of rushes, short lingge, bramble bushes, or such like: or if the champaigne be more plaine and void of such places, then you shall at the beginning of the yeere repaire to the shrubs, about Christmas to the fallows, and in *March* to the greene Corne: for those are the most vsuall haunts for the best *hares*, and in all these places you shall regard the Forme, or Hares seate well, and know whether it be old or new, as if the forme be plaine and smooth within, the padde before it flat & wroorne, and the pricks so new and easie to be seene that the earth appeare blacke, and as it were presently broken, then is the forme new, and if the *Hounds* call vpon it then may you hunt from thence, and vpon the trayle recouer that *Hare*: but if the forme looke old and rough within, and the padde it selfe be not smooth nor anie pricks to be discerned therein then it is old, and if the *Hounds* call vpon it you shall rate them for the sent is old and all the labour will be lost you spend vpon it.

Where to find Hares.

The knowledge of the Hares forme.

The next thing you obserue must be the shifts and

sleights

sleights of the *hare*, when she is wearily hunted, as her dubblings and windings and at euery default giue the *Hounds* leasure enough and compasse enough in the casting about of your rings for the vnwinding of the same; then you shall obserue her leapes and skippes before she squat, and beat all those places very curiously which are likely to giue her any harbour, & though the losse seem neuer so dangerous, yet not to bee discouraged but to continue your search, because when shee commeth to those hard shifts shee is at the last cast and cannot stand long before the *Hounds*. Many other circumstances there are, but they are so generall knowne to almost euerie man that any waie affecteth this pleasure, that it is needlesse to make further relation thereof; and therfore I hold this sufficient for the hunting of the *hare*.

The hares sleights and shifts.

Now for the hunting of the *Fox* or *Badger*, they are chases of a great deale lesse vse or cunning then any of the former, because they are of much hotter sent, as being intitled stinking sents and not sweet sents, and indeed very fewe *dogges* but will hunt them with all egernesse; therefore I will not stand much vpon them, but aduise you to respect well their haunts & coueits, which commonly is in woods and bushie places, and to take knowledge of their earths, and Kennels, and as neere as you can when you goe about to hunt them, to stoppe vp their Kennels, and keepe them out that fling foorth, they may be the sooner brought to their destruction; the chase is profitable and pleasant for the time, insomuch as there are not so many defaults, but a continuing sport, yet not so much desired as the rest, because there is not so much art and cunning, and thus much for chases, and the generall vse of all kind of hunting.

The hunting of the Fox or Badger.

The end of Hunting.

Of Hawking, &c.

Chap. 5.

Of the Hawking with all sorts of Hawkes, and the whole Arte thereof.

IF your Englisſh Husband-man ſhall for his Recreation, chuſe the pleaſure of Hawking, which is a moſt Princely and ſerious delight; he ſhal vnderſtand that all Hawkes arediuided into two kinds: the long winged Hawke, and the ſhort: the long winged Hawkes which are meete for our Huſbandmans Recreation, are the *Faulcon-gentle*, and her *Tercell*, the *Gerfaulcon* and her *Genkin*, the *Saker*, the *Lanner*, the *Barbary Faulcon*, the *Merlin*, and the *Hobby*: and the ſhort-winged *Hawkes* are the *Goſhawke*, the *Tercel* of the *Goſhawk*, the *Sparrowhawke*, & the *Musket*.

Kindes of Hawkes.

The *Faulcon gentle*, which is the principle of *hawks*, may be made either for the field or riuer, & wil fly either at the Partridge or at the Mallard: the *Gerfaulcon* wil fly at the Herron: the *Saker* at the Crane or Bitter, the *Lanner* wil flie at the Partridge, Pheaſant, or Choffe: the *barbary-faulcon* at the Partridge onely; the *Merlin* and the *Hobby* at the Partridge, Larke, or any ſmal bird whatſoeuer: the *Goſhawke*, or *Tercel* of *Goſhawk* at the partridge, Pheaſant, or Hare: the *Sparrow-hawke* at the Partridge or Blacke bird, and the *Musket* at the Buſh only, and all theſe Hawkes are hardy, meeke, and louing to the man.

The flights of Hawkes.

All

All Hawkes generally are manned after one manner, that is to say, by watching and keeping them from sleep, by a continuall carrying of them vpon your fist, and by a most familiar stroaking and playing with them, with the Wing of a dead Foule or such like, and by often gazing and looking of them in the face, with a louing and gentle Countenance, and so making them acquainted with the man. The manning of Hawkes.

After your Hawks are manned, you shal bring them to the Lure by easie degrees, as first making them iumpe vnto the fist, after fall vppon the Lure, then come to the voice; and lastly, to know the voice and Lure so perfectly, that either vpon the sound of the one, or sight of the other, she will presently come in and be most obedient, which may easily be performed, by giuing her reward when she doth your pleasure, and making her fast when she disobeyeth: short wing'd Hawks shal be called to the fist only, and not to the Lure; neyther shal you vse vnto them the loudnesse and variety of voice, which you doe to the long-winged Hawks, but only bring them to the fist by chirping your lips together, or else by the whistle: And in this manner of Luring and calling of Hawkes, (for short-winged Hawkes are sayd to be called and not Lured) you shall specially acquaint your Hawke with three things: First bouldnesse and acquaintance with Men, Dogges, and Horses, then that she be eager and sharpe set before the Lure be shewed her, knowing both the morning and euening houres of her luring; and lastly to delight her the more with the Lure, to haue it euer garnished on both sides with warme and bloody meate. Of Luring Hawkes.

When your Hawkes are throughly manned and lured, and are come to height of flesh and good lust, you shall then spie out a faire day when the weather and aire is most The bathing of Hawkes.

Of Hawking, &c.

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is moſt temperate, and carry your Hawke to ſome faire little, ſhallow ſandy, running Brooke, or rundle where the water is quiet and ſtil, and where your Hawke may ſtand vp to the mid thigh therein, and hauing prickt her downe and made her faſt hard by the verdge thereof, you ſhal take off her hood and goe a little way from her, and ſee where ſhe wil bath therein; but if you finde her feareful of the water, you ſhal with a little ſticke paddle in the water a while before her, and then depart from her againe, and let her then bathe therein as long as ſhee pleaſeth: this done, you ſhal take her vpon your fiſt and giue her a bit or two of meate, then hold her in the ſun, and let her picke, prune, and dry herſelfe againe; if you cannot come to any Riuer, brooke, or rundle conueniently, then you ſhal prouide either a large baſon, or a broad ſhallow tubbe, and in it let your Hawke bathe as oft as occaſion ſhal ſerue, for this bathing giueth a Hawke courage, boldneſſe and a great appetite, and would commonly be vſed the day or morning before any princely flight: If it be in the winter that your Hawke batheth, when no Sunne ſhineth, you may then drie her as wel by the gentle aire of the fire as otherwiſe.

Of enſeaming, giuing caſting and ſcouring.

To enſeame your Hawke, which is to cleanſe her from greaſe, fat & glut which lieth inwardly in her body, and which you ſhall know by her round thighes, hie fleſh, and full mewtings; then when you feed her in the morning giue her a bit or two of hot meate, and the night following little or nothing, then morning and euening after feede her vpon the fleſh of a Rooke waſht in two waters, till you feele the pinions of her wings more tender then they were before, then giue her caſting according to her nature, as was before ſhewed, and once in two or three daies giue her a Hennes necke well ioynted

ted and washt in water, which will by the sharpnes ther-of breake the kells and filmes of fat which are in her body; then euery morning you shall giue her a quicke traine Pidgeon, and keepe her so long vpon her winge that by her owne moderate exercise, she may melt and dissolue the grease that molesteth her, which after it is broken you may take away, by giuing her three or fowre pellets of the roote of Sellandine, as bigge as garden pease, well washt and scowred, and if you steepe those pellets in the sirrup of Roses the scouring is much stronger.

When your hawke is manned, lured, and enseamed, you shall then bring her to her flight, which if it bee at the Pheasant or Partridge in woody and closse grounds, then you shall when you lure the hawke, cast your lure into some lowe tree or bush, that thereby you may bring her to take the stand, which when she doth you shal then drawe out your lure, and giuing her notice thereof, make her ceaze thereon, and euer feed her on the ground and vnder a bush, the practise whereof will bring her to delight in the stand, and to marke all the aduantages which shee shall get from thence, then bringing her to either Pheasant, or Partridge, make her fly at a young one first, that being more foolish & easier flaine, she may take delight in her conquest. But if you fly any long-winged hawke in the champaine, then you shall by all meanes possible keepe her from the stand, and onely maintaine her vpon her wing till you spring the Partridge vnderneath her, and then stooping vpon the aduantage, the prey can hardly escape her, yet for the more sure killing of the game and entring of young hawkes, you shall first spring the Partridge and marke them, then being come to the mathe cast off your hawke, and when she is gotten

Of flying at the Pheasant or Partridge.

to the height of her gate lay in your Spannels, and then retriuing the Partridge vnderneath her after the first flight it is impossible she should escape. And in this sort you may fly all manner of long-winged hawkes, for it is not so proper to fly them from the fist, although most of our late *Faulconers* now a dayes vse it; but for your short-winged hawkes, you shall fly them from the fist onely: And therefore to make them hardy and valiant, you shall first enter them at an old field Partridge, laid in a hole, and couered either with a sodde, board, or hat, at which you shall fasten a small Creance, and then vncoupling your Spannells, as they are raunging about sodainely, when your Hawkes head is towards the Partridge, plucke off the sodde or hatte, and let the traine goe, and the Hawke after it, which as soone as she hath slaine reward her very well, and thus doing twice or thrice, you may after venture to flie her at your pleasure.

Of flying at fowle.

To make your Hawke fly at fowle, which is called the flight at the riuer, you shall first whistle of an approued well quarried Hawke that is a sure killer, and let her enew the fowle so long till she bring it to the plundge: then take her downe and reward her, and set her by, yet so as you may haue her ready to vse at your pleasure: then whistle of your yong hawke, and when she is at the height of her gate, and that you haue shewed her water diuers times to make her the more inward, and by a gibbet cal'd her in, when at any time she hath looked out: Then being iust ouer the fowle, make in with all your company on euery side the riuer, and so lay forth the fowle, which if your Hawke stoope, strike and trusse, you shall presently make into her, and helpe her, and then crossing the foules wings, or breaking them, let your

Hawke take her pleasure thereon, but if she doe not slay the foule at the first stooping, then you shall giue your Hawke leasure to recouer her gate againe, and then lay forth the foule as before, not leauing thus to doe till you haue landed it, and that the Hawke hath slaine it, & then reward her as before said: But if such a mischiefe shall fall out that the fowle doe scape and breake away: then you shall be sure to haue a liue Mallard readie in your bag; which you may cast forth, and so reward your Hawke thereon.

If your long winged hawke flying at the riuer or in champaine fields vse to take stand which is a foule fault, you shall first by all meanes shunne flying neere trees or couert: but if that doe not suffice, then you shall haue diuers traines in diuers mens hands: and when the hawke offers to goe to the stand, let which is next her cast out his traine, and if she kill it, reward her: this doing once or twice will reclaime or nothing. Helpes for faults in long winged hawks, and first of the stand.

If your Hawke through pride of grease or otherwise be froward and coy, you shall not when shee kils reward her as you were wont, but conuaying some other colde meat cunningly vnder her, let her take her pleasure theron; and euer with the meate giue her some feathers which may scower her and make her to cast; for this will recouer her stomacke, and make more carefull and diligent. Against frowardnesse.

If your Hawke be of a wilde and stirring nature, and will not looke inward towards the man with her head, but rake and gase after euery checke, neither respecting whooping nor gibbeting, in this case you must followe her and lure her backe, and as soone as she turneth in her head, show her the Luer, to which if she stoupe, then presently reward her, and thus doe so oft as she raungeth To make a hawke inward.

till

til she be brought vnto that Loue to your voice and affection to the Luer, that she wil forget her other extrauagant thoughts.

To keepe a hawke in high flying.

When your Hawke is brought to flye to an extraordinary high pitch, to mainetayne and keepe her in the same manner of flying stil, you shal not flie her aboue one flight in the day at the most, for nothing bringeth her downe more then ouer Wearinesse: Also you shal then not keep too extreame a straight hand vppon her, for the too much greedinesse of the Quarry makes her slake her flying. Also you shal not flye her vpon Rundles, or smal brookes, but vppon plashes and broad Riuers, you shal not suffer her to flye too long, but after two or three stoopings, and a crossing, although she misse it, take her downe with the Luer or traine, and reward her, for this encouragement wil maintaine her in her goodnesse.

To bring Hawkes vpward.

If your Hawke be high flying, yet sloathful to get to her Gatte, or else now and then stouping before there be cause, and so loosing her Way, which many times happeneth when either the Hawke is kept too sharpe, or flowne out of her due time, any of which faults when you perceiue, you shal then vpon the doing thereof giue her a dead Quarry, and then hood her vp without Reward, and an houre or two after call her to the Lure, and feed her: and thus do as oft as she offendeth; yet for the more sure preuention thereof, I would haue euery *Faulconer* to trye the natural disposition of his Hawke, and find whether she flyeth better on a straight hand, or an open, and whether early or late and so forth, and according to her owne nature euer to keep her.

Short winged Hawkes as *Goshawkes*, & *Sparrow-hawks* wil many times neither kil their Game, nor flye their

Game

Game to marke, but will giue it ouer after a little flying, and (as *Faulconers* terme it) turne taile vnto it, which when you see, you shal incourage your Dogges to hunt and cast before your Hawke a traine Partridge, as if were the Wild one, and make her ceaze it, and feed wel vpon it, to incourage her the better, and thus do twice, or thrice, which if you see it preuaile not, then esteeme her not, but make her away, for she wil hardly euer be Reclaimed.

Faults in short winged hawks, first o. turning taile.

Hawkes that haue neuer beene acquainted with prey, wil many times not fly at all, but taking a Tree, wil sit and looke after the game, which fault to amend, you shal euer feed her vppon quicke Birds, and make her foot them, and then going into the field, which is Champain and plaine, after you haue Rid vp and downe a pretty space with the Hawke vnhooded, you shal cause one of your company to cast out a field Partridge before your Hawke: Then let her flye at it, and so soone as she hath footed it, let her feed thereon at her pleasure, and do thus three or foure times til she be wel in blood, and you shal find her valiant quickly.

If a Hawke wil not fly at all.

If your Hawke be so fond of the man, that she wil not flye from him, but after a stroke or two, returnes to him againe; you must then but seldom be familiar with her, and let her rather feed her selfe then be fed by you, and as oft as she commeth so vnproperly vnto you, you shal giue her no Reward, but when she forsaketh you and killeth the Game, then you shal wel Reward her, and then make her both familiar with Men, Dogges, and Horses, for to take ioy or dislike to any of them, is a mischiefe a great deale worse then the former.

To much fondnes of the man.

To speake of the Mewing of long winged Hawkes, you shal vnderstand that they may be set downe, that is,

put

put into the Mewe about the middle of *Aprill*, at which time if you finde they haue any lice you shall pepper them, and put them into the Mewe, which if it bee a lowe place vpon the ground free from noise, vermine, or any euill aire, then it is called mewing at the stone or stocke; but if you mewe in any high roome with open windowes towards the *North*, or *North-east*, then it is called mewing at large: If you mewe at the stocke, you shall haue a broad Table in the midst of the roome, on which you must place sand, grauell, stones, sods, and tubs for water, and in the midst of these a free-stone or block of two foote high, to which you shall fasten your hawke with a turuell of iron, so that at no time her lease may be intangled; this manner of mewing may be in the Faulconers owne bed-chamber, or in any other safe roome at his pleasure, the best meate in the mewe is any quicke birds or fowle, dogs flesh and such like: If you mewe your hawke at large you shall put her loose into the mewe, hauing sundry pearches therin, some hie some lowe for her vse to sit on; and in this mewe also you shall haue, sand, stones, grauell, greene sods and water, all which you shall renewe as oft as neede doe require, and in the midst of them a blocke or two whereon to tie her meate, which meate shall bee the same formerly spoke of and giuen at certaine and due times, without faile or alteration.

Mewing of long winged Hawkes.

Mewing at the stone.

Mewing at large.

If you intend to mewe a short winged hawke, as the Goshawke, or such like, you shall in *March* after you haue scowred her and made her cleane from lice, cut off her tallons and throw her into the Mewe loose, either in a high roome or a low roome at your pleasure, let her perches be lined with canuasse, or with woollen lists for the safety of her feet, let her haue store of water for bathing

Mewing of short-winged hawkes.

and

and oft renewed, and ſtore of meate, as liue Pidgeons, warme Mutton, warme Goate, or Dogges fleſh, any of which will make her Mew quickly.

When to draw Hawkes.

Hawkes for the field, would be drawne from the Mew in *Iune*, and made ready to flye in *Auguſt*, at which time Corne is cut and the Game is ſtrong: and Hawkes for the Riuer would be drawne in *Auguſt*, that they may be ready to fly in *September*.

Diſeaſes in Hawkes.

Hawkes haue diuers infirmities and diſeaſes, as Feauers, Palſey, Impoſthumes, ſore eyes, and Nares, Megrims, Pantas, caſting her Gorge, foulneſſe of Gorge, Wormes, Filanders, ill Liuer, or Goute, Pinne in the foot, breaking the pounce, Bones out of ioynt, Bones broken, Bruiſes, Lice, Colds, Frounce, Fiſtulaes, Stone, much gaping, more foundring, priuy euill, taint in the Feathers, loſſe of appetite, broken wind, blow on the Wing, wounds, ſwellings, eating their owne feet, taking vp of veines in Hawkes, Crampe, and a world of others: All which foraſmuch as I haue ſhewed the Medicines, and cures thereof in the former Treatiſe called *Cheape and Good*, I will refer you vnto the ſame, and not doubt but it will giue you ſatisfaction.

Chap. 6.

Of Courſing with Grey-hounds, and the Excellencies of that ſport.

Of Courſing with Grey-hounds.

NOw if the mind of our Husbandman be not ſo generally taken with the delight & pleſure of this recreation of Hawking, but that he preferreth before it the delight of Courſing with Grey-hounds, which is a very noble and worthy paſtime, he ſhall in it obſerue theſe foure things, the *Breed* of Grey-hounds, their *Shape*, their

their dyet, and the Lawes belonging to the same.

ing of hes.

Touching the breed of *Greyhounds* you are principally to respect the Countryes in which they are bred, and nourished, as that it be a champaine plaine and without couert, where a *Hare* may stand forth & indure a course of two miles or more, as it shal happen (for the coursing of the *hare*, is that which I purpose most to entreate of) because in a close countrye ful of couert, where a *hare* cannot run aboue a quarter of a mile or lesse: both the pleasure of the recreation is taken away, and the *Greyhound* by an insufficient exercise is made vnapt, and vnfit for that for which he was created.

Best places for breed.

Now of champaine countries, they are of three kinds, as the Low vales, as are the vale of *Belvoire*, the vaile of white *Horse*, the vale of *Eusham*, and such like, the high Downes and Heaths, as about *Salisbury*, *Cisseter*, *Lincoln*, and many such like places, and the middle between both as the County of *Northampton*, and *Leicester*, and others like them: All which are very excellent places for the breeding and training vp of the best *Greyhounds*, yet of the three, your vailes or middle soiles, which for the most part are errable grounds, are much better to breed and traine on, then your Downes and Heathes, because they are much more labourſome, rough, heauy, and in the winter season ful of much trouble & false foot-hold, in so much that a Dogge which is able to run strongly, swiftly, and surely there, must necessarily do it ten times better when he comes to the smooth, plaine, and carpet like Doune: whereon the contrary, the Dogge which is trained vpon those euen Downes, though he be right Famous and excellent, when he comes to run in the deepe wet plowed field, is to seeke where to bestow his feete, and can neither shew speed, cunning, nor indurance.

The best Greyhounds.

Now

Now the Gentlemen which dwel on the Downes and plaine grounds, to maintaine the reputation of their dogs affirme them to be much more nimble and cunning in turning, then the vale dogs be, because the fairenes of the Earth giuing them so much aduantage ouer the Hare, that hauing her euen (as it were) in a manner vnder their feet, she is put more to her shifts, & striues with greater art of sleights to deceiue, & get aduantage of the Grey-hound: And it is true, for by reason of the aduantage of their Hils, which are great and steepe, though smooth and plaine, I haue seene a vale Dog so much deceiued, that vppon a turne, he hath lost more ground then hath beene recouerable in the whole course after: but this is no want of goodnes but a little skil, which a moneths coursing wil bring a Dog so sufficiently vnto, that he wil not need any other reformation then the knowledge of his errour, by his losse of Labour. So that I conclude the good Dog vppon the deeps wil euer beate the good Dogs on the plaine. Nimblenesse in Greyhounds.

It is an old receiued opinion amongst many men of the Leashe, that the Grey-hound bitch, wil euer beate the Grey-hound dog, by reason of her more nimblenesse, quicknesse and agillity: And it is sometimes seene that a perfect good Bitch indeed, hath much aduantage of an ordinary Dog: but if the good Dogge meet with the good Bitch, there is then no comparison, but the Dogge wil be her Master, in as much as he exceedeth her both in length and strength, the two maine helpes in coursing; for her nimblenesse is then no helpe, sith a good Dog in the turne wil loose as little ground, as any Bitch whatsoeuer. Differences betweene Doggs and Bitches.

Yet thus much I would perswade al Gentlemen of the Leash to be very carefull in their breeding, to breede Dogs and Bitches for breed.

vpon

vpon the best *bitches* they can prouide, for it is found in experience that the best *Dogge* vpon an indifferent *bitch* will not get so good a Whelpe, as an indifferent *dogge* vpon the best *Bitch:* And amongst these obseruations in breeding *Grey-hounds*; you shall obserue to haue your *Dogges* and *Bitches* of equall and indifferent ages, as about three or foure yeares old at the most; but in case of need, your *Bitch* will indure a great deale longer then your *dogge*, and to breed with a young *dogge* on an olde *bitch*, may bring foorth an excellent *whelpe*.

The shapes of Greyhounds.

Touching the shapes of *Greyhounds* (from whence you shall take the best Collections for their goodnesses) they are certayne, and most infallable: Therefore touching *Greyhounds*, when they are puppies or young whelpes, those which are most raw-bon'd, leane, loose made, sickle or crooked hought, and generally vnknit in euery member, are euer likely to make the best *dogges*, and most shapely: but such as in the first three or foure moneths, are round, and close trust, fat, straight, and as it were full sum'd and knit in euery member, neuer prooue good, swift or comely.

Now after your Dogge comes to full growth, as at a yeare and a halfe, or two yeares old, he would then haue a fine long leane head, with a sharpe nose rush-growne, from the Eyes downward; A full cleare eye with long eie lids; a sharpe eare short and close falling, a long necke, a little bending, with a loose hanging wezand; a broad breast, strait forelegs, side hollow ribs, a straight, square and flat backe, short and strong fillets, a broad space betweene the Hips, a strong steame or rayle, and a round foot, and good large clefts. Now for the better help of your memory, I will giue you an old Rime, left by our Fore-fathers, from which you shal vnderstand the true

shapes

ſhapes of a perfect *Grey-hound*, and this it is.

If you will haue a good tike.
Of which there are few like.
He muſt be headed like a Snake.
Neckt like a Drake.
Backt like a Beame,
Sided like a Breame.
Tailed like a Ratt.
And footed like a Cat.

Theſe being the principall members of a good *grey-hound*, if they reſemble the proportions of the things aboue named, the dogge cannot chuſe but be moſt perfect.

When you haue thus a perfect and well-ſhap't *grey-hound*, your next rule is to apply your ſelfe to the dyetting and ordering of him, for the pleaſure to which you keepe him, that bringing him to the vttermoſt height or ſtrength of winde, you may know the vttermoſt goodnes that is within him, which diſorderly and foule keeping will conceale, and you looſe a Iewell for want of knowledge of the value. Dyetting of grey-hounds to courſe.

Dyetting then of *grey-hounds* conſiſteth in foure eſpeciall thinges, to wit, *foode, exerciſe, ayring*, and *kennelling*, the firſt nouriſhing the body, the ſecond the limbes, the third the winde, and the laſt the ſpirits. Of what dyetting conſiſteth.

To ſpeake then firſt of foode it is two fold, either generall, or particular; generall as for a continuall vpholding and maintaining of a dogge in good ſtate of body, being in good plight and liking, or particular, when a dogge is either poore, ſick, or prepared for wager, ſtandeth in neede of particular foods of aduantage. Of foode.

Of generall foode.

The beſt generall foods for the ordinary vpholding of a dogge in a good ſtate of body is chippings, cruſts of bread, ſoft tender bones or griſſels of Veale, Lambe, or ſuch like; firſt ſcalded in beefe-broth not very ſalt; or other broath in which hath beene boiled, mutton, veale, veniſon, or any kinde of Pullen, or for want thereof, other cleane ſcalding water, after your chippings or bread is ſcalded you ſhall let it ſtand and coole, then when your feeding houre commeth, you ſhall take as much good milke, flotten milke, or butter milke (but the beſt is moſt wholeſome) as will fully or more then whiten the ſame, for it is to be intended that your water muſt be all drunke vp into your bread, and your milke muſt onely make it ſwim, and with this feed your dogge morning & euening after you come from walking him, and giue him a good and ſufficient meale thereof, for this will onely maintaine and vphold him in good ſtate of body, being ſtrong and luſty in fleſh before.

Of particular foode.

For particular food which is when a dogge is poore, ſicke or to be prepared for wadger they be theſe: Firſt, if he be poore in fleſh, ſickly or weake the beſt food you can raiſe him vp withall is to take ſheepes heads woolh and all cleane waſht, and breake them all to pecces, then put them in a Cauldron or Kettle, and after the water hath riſen and is cleane skum'd, put vnto it good ſtore of oat-meale and ſweet pot-hearbs ſmall chopt together & ſo boile it till the fleſh be tender; then with this meat and the pottage feed your *grey-hound* morning and euening, and it wil ſoone put him into great luſt & ſtrength:

Foode for a match.

but if you will prepare him for match and wadger, then you ſhall make him this diet-bread, take a pecke of the fineſt and drieſt oat-meale, & two pecks of good wheat, and hauing ground them together, boult the meale thorough

rough a fine boulting cloath, & then ſcattering amongſt it a pritty quantity of Any-ſeeds and Licoras wel beaten together, kneade it vp with the whites of egges, new ale and barme mixt together, and ſo bake it in pretty round loaues reſonable hard, with this bread either ſcalded, as was before ſhewed in your chippings, or put into the pottage with the Sheepes-heads warme, feed your dog morning and euening, to wit, halfe an howre after Sunne riſe, and halfe an howre before Sun ſet, when you come from walking or ayring him, and it will bring him to exceeding great ſtrength of body and pureneſſe of winde. Howers of feeding.

For the exerciſe of your *gray hound*, it conſiſteth likewiſe in two thinges, courſin and ayring; and they be euery way as neceſſary as is foode, becauſe it onely bringeth ability to his limbes and perfitneſſe to his winde: to ſpeake then of courſing, you ſhall not faile to courſe him at leaſt twice a weeke: If your courſes be ſtrong & long: but thrice a weeke, if they be but reaſonable as a mile or a mile and a halfe at moſt, and ſometimes if your courſes be ſhort and vnder a mile. In courſing you ſhall obſerue two things *blond* and *labour*; *blond* which is a hartning and animating of your dogge to delight in the pleaſure, when he findes the reward of his paines taking; for if a dog courſe continually and neuer kill, the ſport will growe yrkſome vnto him, and therefore now and then, giue him ſuch aduantage that he may kill the Hare, then *labour*, which is contrary to killing; for in it you muſt giue the Hare all indfferent aduantage, both by lawe and otherwiſe, whereby ſhe may ſtand long before the dogge, and make him ſhewe his vttermoſt ſtrength before he be able to reach her. Of exerciſe by courſing.

After your dogge hath courſt, if he kill your ſhall by

no meanes ſuffer him to brake the Hare, but hauing ta-
Ordering dogs often courſing. ken her from him firſt clenſe his mouth and chaps from the wool of the Hare, & then giue him to eate the liuer, lights, and heart, and ſo take him vp in your leaſe, leade him home, and there firſt waſh his feete in a little butter and beere, and ſo put him vp in the kennel, and halfe an houre after feede him; for vpon his courſing dayes you muſt by no meanes giue him any meate more then a white bread toaſt and butter, or a toaſt and oyle, which muſt be giuen before his morning ayring, and ſo keneled till he goe to his courſe.

Of ayring. Touching ayring or walking of *grey-hounds*, which is a great nouriſher and increaſer of winde, it muſt dewly be done euery morning before Sun-riſe, and euery eue-ning before or after Sunne ſet in this manner, as ſoone as you haue opened your kennell and rub'd your dogge ouer with a cleane haire cloath, you ſhall let him play a little about you before the kennell dore, then take him vp into your leaſh and walke him forth into the fields, where for the moſt part are no ſheepe or other ſmal cat-tell, which they may out of wantonneſſe indaunger, and there let wim looſe and giue him leaue to play and ſcope about you, ſo that he may skummer, piſſe, and emptie his body, which when he hath done ſufficently, you ſhall then take him vp in your leaſh againe, and ſo walke him home and kennell him, this you ſhall doe after the ſame manner in the euening; and alſo if your dogge bee ſtronge and luſtie at night after ſupper, and then bring-ing him home bring him to the fire; and there let them ſtretch and beake themſelues, and with your hand grope and cleanſe them from ticks and other filth, which done leade them to the kennell, and ſhut them vp for all night.

Now

Now for the kenelling of *Greyhounds*, it is a right neceſſary action and muſt be performed with al diligence, for it breedes in the Dogge luſt, ſpirit, and nimbleneſſe, preuents diuers miſchaunces, and keepes the powers from ſpending till time of neceſſity: and therefore you ſhall by no meanes ſuffer your Dogge to bee out of the kenneil, but in the houres of feeding, walking, courſing, or when you haue other neceſſary buſineſſes to doe about him.

Chap. 7.

The Lawes of the Leaſhe or Courſing, as they were commanded, allowed, and ſubſcribed by Thomas *late Duke of Norfolke, in the raigne of* Q. Elizabeth.

Now laſtly, touching the Lawes of the Leaſhe, or Courſing, though they be vncertainly receiued, and alter with mens various opinions, yet theſe vnder-written were held for authentical once and inuented, receiued, and ſubſcribed vnto by many noble and worthy Perſonages, ſuting fully with the reaſons and grounds of the paſtime. Of Kenelling the Greyhound.

Firſt therefore it was ordered that he which was choſen Fewterer or letter looſe of the *Greyhounds*, ſhould receiue the *Greyhounds* matcht to run together into his Leaſhe, aſſoone as he came into the field, and to follow next to the Hare-finder til he came vnto the forme: and no *Horſeman* nor *Footeman* on paine of diſgrace to goe before them, or on either ſide, but directly behind, the ſpace of forty yards or thereabouts.

Item, that not aboue one brace of *Greyhounds*, to courſe a *Hare* at one inſtant.

Item, that the *Hare-finder* should giue the *Hare* three *so-howes* before he put her from her Leat, to make the *Grey-hounds* gaze and attend her rising.

It. That the *Fewterer* shall giue the *Hare* tweluescore Law, ere he loose the *Grey-hounds*, except it be in danger of loosing sight.

It. That Dogge which giueth the first turne, if after the turne be giuen, there be neyther coate, slip, nor wrench extraordinary, then he which gaue the first turn shall be held to winne the wager.

It. if one Dog giue the first turne and the other beare the Hare, then he which boare the Hare shall win.

It. if one Dog giue both the first turne and last turne, and no other aduantage betweene them, that odde turne shall win the wager.

It. that a coate shal be more then two turnes, and a go by, or the bearing of the Hare equall with two turnes.

It. if neyther Dogge turne the Hare, then he which leadeth last at the couert, shall bee held to winne the waged.

It. if one Dogge turne the Hare, serue himselfe, and turne her againe, those two turnes shall be as much as a coate.

It. if all the course be equall, then he onely which beares the Hare shall winne, and if shee be not borne, then the course must be adiudged dead.

It. if he which comes first into the death of the Hare, takes her vp and saues her from breaking, cherisheth the Dogs, and cleanseth their mouthes from the wooll, or other filth of the Hare, for such curtesie done, he shall incurtesie challenge the Hare, but not doing it, he shall haue no right, priuiledge or title therein.

It. if any Dog shal take a fall in the course, and yet per-

performe his part, he ſhall challenge the aduantage of a turne more then he giueth.

Item, if one Dog turne the Hare, ſerue himſelfe, and giue diuers coats, yet in the end ſtand ſtil in the field, the other Dog without turne giuing, running home to the couert, that Dogge which ſtood ſtill in the field, ſhal be then adiudged to looſe the wager.

If any man ſhall Ride ouer a Dogge and ouerthrow him in his courſe (though the Dogge were the worſe Dogge in opinion) yet the party for the offence ſhall eyther receiue the diſgrace of the field, or pay the wager, for betweene the parties, it ſhall be adiudged no courſe.

Item, thoſe which are choſen Iudges of the Leaſhe, ſhall giue their iudgements preſently, before they depart from the field, or elſe he in whoſe default it lyeth, ſhall pay the Wager by a generall Voyce and ſentence.

And thus much for the Lawes of Courſing, and thoſe particularities which do depend thereupon: All which, I ſubmit vnto the Correction and amendement of thoſe VVorthy and well knowing Gentlemen, who hauing the Office of the Leaſhe confer'd vppon them; haue both Authority and Power to make Lawes therein, according vnto the Cuſtomes of Countries, and the Rules of reaſon.

The end of Hawking.

Of particular Recreations.

Chap. 8.

Of diuers other particular Recreations.

Of shooting in the Long-bow.

THere be many other particular Recreations necessary for the knowledge and practice of our Husbandman: as first, shooting in the Long-bowe, which is both healthful for the Body, and necessary for the Common wealth, the first extending the Limbes and making them plyant; the other, an able strength fit to preserue and defend his Countrey. And first for shooting in the Long-bow, a man must obserue these few Rules, first that he haue a good eye to behold and discerne his marke, a knowing iudgement to vnderstand the distance of ground, to take the true aduantage of a side-winde, and to know in what compasse his arrow must flie, and a quicke dexterity to giue his shaft a strong, sharpe, and suddain loose, he must in the action it selfe stand faire, comely, & vpright with his body, his Left foote a conuenient stride before his right, both his hammes stiffe, his left arme holding his Bowe in the midst stretcht straight-out, and his right arme with his three first fingers and his thumb drawing

the ſtring vnto his right eare, the nocke of his arrow reſting betweene his fore-finger, and long finger of his right hand, and the ſteale of his arrow below the feathers vpon the middle knuckle of his fore-finger on his left hand, hee ſhall draw his arrow vp cloſe vnto the head, and deliuer it on the inſtant without hanging on the ſtring; the beſt Bowe is eyther Spaniſh or Engliſh yewe, and the worſt of Witchen or Elme, the beſt ſhaft is of Burch, Sugar-cheſt, or Brazel, and the beſt feather gray or white.

The Markes to ſhoote at are three, Buts, Prickes, or Roauers: the But is a leuell Marke, and therefore would haue a ſtrong Arrow with a very broad feather: The Pricke is a marke of ſome compaſſe, yet moſt certayne in the Diſtance, therefore would haue nimble ſtrong Arrowes with a middle Feather, all of one weight and flying; and the Roauer is a marke incertayne, ſometimes long, ſometimes ſhort, and therfore muſt haue arrowes lighter or heauier, according vnto the diſtance of place.

If infirmity in the armes, or backe take from a man the vſe of the Long-bow, he may then with a Crosbow made for gafel carried vpon a ſtring, and the nether end placed in a reſt with arrowes made ſtrong, heauy, and ſutable to the ſtrength of the Bowe, ſhute at all the former Markes, and reape the ſame pleaſure he formerly did with his Long-bow. *Of ſhooting in Crosbowes.*

There is another Recreation, which howſoeuer vnlawful in the abuſe thereof, yet exerciſed with moderation, is euen of Phyſitions themſelues held exceeding wholſome, and hath beene preſcribed for a recreation to great Perſons, and that is Bowling in which a man ſhal finde great Art in chooſing out his ground, and preuen- *⊙. Bowling.*

ting

ring the Winding, Hanging, and many turning aduantages of the same, whether it be in open Wide places, or in close allies; and in this sport, the chusing of the Powle is the greatest cunning; your flat Bowles being the best for close Allies, your round byazed Bowles for open Grounds of aduantage, and your round bowles like a Ball, for greene-swarthes that are plaine and leuell.

Not inferiour to these sports, eyther for health or action, are the Tenise, or Baloone, the first being a pastime in close or open Courts, striking a little round ball too or fro, eyther with the palme of the hand, or with Racket: The other a strong and moouing sport in the open fields, with a great Ball of double Leather fild with Winde, and so driuen too and fro with the strength of a mans Arme arm'd in a Bracer of Wood, eyther of which actions must be learnt by the Eye and practise, not by the Eare or Reading.

OF

Of Angling, &c.

Chap. 9.

The whole Art of Angling, as it was written in a small Treatise in Rime, and now for the better vnderstanding of the Reader, put into Prose, and adorned and inlarged: And first of Angling, the vertue, vse, and Antiquity.

Since Pleasure is a Rapture, or power in this last Age, stolne into the hearts of men, and there lodged vp with such a careful guard and attendance, that nothing is more Supreame, or ruleth with greater strength in their affections, and since all are now become thesonnes of Pleasure, and euery good is measured by the delight it produceth: what worke vnto men can be more thankefull then the Discourse of that pleasure which is most comely, most honest, and giueth the most liberty to Diuine meditation, and that without all question is the Art of Angling, which hauing euer beene most hurtlesly necessary, hath beene the sport or Recreation of Gods Saints, of most holy Fathers, and of many worthy and reuerend Diuines, both dead, and at this time breathing.

For

The vse of Angling, and the vertues.

For the vse thereof (in its owne true and vnabused nature) carrieth in it neither couetousnesse, deceipt, nor anger, the three maine spirits which (euer in some ill measure) ruleth in all their pastimes: neither are alone predominant without the attendance of their seuerall handmaides, as Theft, Blasphemy or Bloodshed: for in Dice-play, Cards, Bowles, or any other sporte where money is the goale to which mens minds are directed, what can mans auarice there be accounted, other then a familiar robbery, each seeking by deceipt to couzen and spoile other of that blisse of meanes which God had bestowed to support them and their families? And as in euery contention there must be a betterhood or super-excelling, so in this, when the weaker deceipt is depriued his expectation, how doth it then fall into curses, oathes, and furies, such as would make Vertue tremble with the imagination.

But in this Art of Angling there is no such euill, no such sinfull violence, for the greatest thing it coueteth, is for much labour a little Fish, hardly so much as will suffice Nature in a reasonable stomacke: for the Angler must intice, not command his reward, and that which is worthy millions to his contentment, another may buy for a groate in the market. His deceipt worketh not vpon men but vpon those Creatures whom it is lawfull to beguile for our honest recreations or needfull vses, and for all rage and fury it must be so great a stranger to this ciuill pastime, that if it come but within view or speculation thereof, it no more to be esteemed a Pleasure, for euery proper good thereof in the very instant faileth, shewing vnto all men that will vndergoe any delight therein that it was first inuented, taught, and shall for euer bee maintained by Patience onely.

And

And yet I may not say onely *Patience*, for her other three Sisters haue likewise a commanding power in this exercise, for *Iustice* directeth and appointeth out those places where men may with liberty vse their sport, and neyther do iniury to their neighbours, nor incurre the censure of inciuility. *Temperance* layeth downe the measure of the action, and moderateth desire in such good proportion, that no Excesse is found in the ouer-flow of their affections. Lastly, *Fortitude* inableth the minde to vndergo the trauaile, and exchange of Weathers with a healthful ease, and not to dispaire with a little expence of time, but to persuere with a constant imagination in the end to obtayne both pleasure and satisfaction.

Now for the Antiquity thereof, (for al pleasures, like Gentry, are held to be most excellent, which is most ancient) it is by some Writers sayd to be found out by *Ducallion* and *Pyrrha* his Wife, after the general flood: others write, it was the inuention of *Saturne*, after the peace concluded betwixt him and his brother *Tytan*: and others, that it came from *Bellus* the sonne of *Nimrod*, who first inuented al holy and vertuous Recreations: and al these though they sauour of fiction, yet they differ not from truth, for it is most certayne that both *Ducallion*, *Saturne*, and *Bellus*, are taken for figures of *Noah*, and his Family, and the inuention of the Art of Angling, is truly sayd to come from the sonnes of *Seth*, of which *Noah* was most principal. Thus you see it is good, as hauing no coherence with euil, worthy of vse: in as much as it is mixt with a delightful profit: and most ancient, as being the Recreation of the first Patriarkes, wherefore now I will proceede to the Arte it selfe, and the meanes to attaine it. The antiquity of Angling.

CHAP.

Chap. 10.

Of the Angle-rod, Lines, Corkes, Hookes, and other tooles for Angling.

IN as much as the first ground Worke or Substance of this Art of Angling consisteth in the implements belonging and appertayning thereunto, and that except a man be possest of them which are most exact, nimble, or necessary for the same, his labour is vayne, and to little or no purpose imployed, and for as much as the Angle-rod is the greatest, principallest, and sole directour of all other Tooles belonging thereunto, I thinke it not amisse to begin with the choyse and order thereof, according to the opinions of the best noted Anglers, which eyther haue bin in times past, or are at this day liuing.

Of the Angle-rod.

For the choyce then of your Angle-Rod you shall vnderstand that some Anglers are of opinion, that the best should be composed of two pieces, a maine body, and a small pliant top. The maine body would be of a fine growne ground-witchen, or a ground Elme, of at least nine or ten foote in length, straight, smooth, without knots, and not much differing, at eyther end in one substance or thickneſſe. It would bee gathered at the fall of the Leafe, neere, or about *All-hallontide*, and layd vp in some dry place, where it may lye straight, and of it selfe season: For to beake them in the fire (as many do) when they are greene, is not so good, but after they be well dryed and seasoned of themselues, then to beake them in the fire, and set them so straight and euen that an arrow cannot surpasse them, is excellent; then you may take off the vpper rinde, and what with the smoake, and their owne age, their colour will be so darke

darke, that they will giue no reflect into the Water, (which is a principall obſeruation.) Your Rod being made thus ſtraight and ſeaſoned, you ſhall at the vpper end thereof, with an Augure or a hot iron, but a hot iron is the better, burne a hole about three inches deep, and of a fingers wideneſſe: then on the outſide of the Rod, from the top of the hole vnto the bottome, you ſhall warpe it about eyther with ſtrong double twiſted threed well Waxed or pitcht, or with Shoo-makers threed many times doubled, and well waxed with Shooe-makers Waxe, and the laſt end faſtned vnder the laſt foulds, ſo cloſe and ſo ſure, that it may by no meanes looſe; for this will keep the Rod from cleauing or breaking in that ſame place, where the hollowneſſe was made.

The ſtocke being thus made, you ſhall into the hole fixe the Top, which would be a very ſmall ground Hazell, growing from the Earth vpward, very ſmooth and ſtraight, which would be cut at the latter end of the yeare, and lye in ſeaſon all the Winter, the vpper Rinde being by no meanes taken off, neyther the Rod put into the fire at all, but only ſeaſoned in a good dry place, where it may lye ſtraight, and haue both the Winde and ſome Ayre of the fire to come vnto it. This Top muſt be plyant and bending, yet of ſuch a ſufficient ſtrength that it will not breake with any reaſonable ierke, but as it is any way bowed, ſo to returne againe to the former ſtraightneſſe. This toh wand would be of a yard and a halfe, or an Ell at leaſt in length, and at the ſmalleſt end thereof would be faſtned with a warpe of haire, a ſtrong loope of haire, about an inch long, to which you may at pleaſure faſten your fiſhing line: and the bigger end of the top, muſt be thruſt into the ſocket

Of the Top of the Angle rod

of

of the ſtocke, and made ſo faſt that it may not looſen nor ſhake out with any ſhaking, or other reaſonable violence. And all be the Witchen or ground-elme are accounted the beſt to frame theſe maine ſtockes of, yet I haue ſeene very good ſtockes made both of Sallow, Beech, or Poplar: for the lighter your Rod is (ſo it be ſtrong) it is ſo much the better, and more for the eaſe of him that vſeth it.

The Angle-rod of one peece.

There be other approued good Anglers which allow onely that Rodde which is compoſed all of one entire peece, and thinke them ſtronger, nimbler, and leſſe caſuall, and theſe Rods they would haue choſen of an excellent ſtraight and well growne ground-Hazell, being from the bottome to the top finely ruſh growne, the vpper end thereof being ſmall, pliant and bending. This Rod would be gathered at the fall of the leafe, when the leaues are ſome fallen and ſome ſticking: as ſoone as you haue cut them vp, you ſhall cut away the leaues and ſmall ſprigs, yet not ſo neere that you hurt the Barke (for that by no meanes muſt be ſtird, as well for the ſtrength of the Rod, as for the colour, which being darke will not ſo ſoone catch the eye of the Fiſh, and offend them.) Then bringing your Rods home, you ſhal lay them vpon a leuell flore, and preſſing them downe with good weights, to keepe them from warping, let them lye and ſeaſon all the Winter: Then in the Spring-time take them vp, for your purpoſe, which is onely to make the knots ſmooth, and to fixe your loope of haire vnto the vpper end. Now of theſe Roddes, the longeſt is the beſt, ſo it be ſtraight and wel growne, for moſt commonly they are ſo ſhort that they wil ſerue to fiſh with but in little narrow Brookes, or elſe in a Boat, in great Waters.

There

There be other Anglers, and many of the beſt and approuedſt iudgements, which allow the Angle-rod of many pieces: as thoſe which are made of Cane, each piece exceeding another one degree, in ſuch euen proportion that being fixed and thruſt one within another: they will ſhew as one euen & moſt ſtraight ruſh-growne body, without any crookednesſe or other outward euill fauouredneſſe: theſe pieces would not be aboue foure foot in length a piece, and three ſuch pieces, which make twelue foot, are ſufficient for the ſtocke of the Rodde, beſides the toppe: now for thoſe ends which are the ſockets, into which you fixe the other Canes, you ſhall hoope them about with fine plates of Braſſe, an inch & an halfe broad, well ſodered, and ſmoothly filed, which will keepe the Cane from cleauing: and for the toppe of this Rod, the round Whale bone is thought the beſt, and ſurely in my conceit ſo it is, both for this or any other rodde whatſoeuer, for it is tough, ſtrong, and moſt plyant: theſe Rods moſt commonly are made to haue the ſmall Canes thruſt downe into the wide Canes, ſo that a man may walke with them as with a ſtaffe, and when he pleaſeth to drawe them forth, and vſe them as occaſion ſhall be offered: the onely exception which is taken at theſe kinde of Rodds, is the bright colour of the Cane, which reflecting into the water, oft times ſcareth the Fiſh, and maketh them afraid to bite. But if you fiſh in deepe and thicke waters, there is no ſuch matter, for the ſhadow of the Rodde is not diſcerned through the Sunne, onely in ſhallow and cleere Brookes it is a little hinderance, and therefore he which is a Maſter in this Art will Vmber and darken the Rodde, by rubbing it ouer a gentle fire with a little Capons greaſe, and browne of Spaine, mixt together.

The Angle-rod of many pieces.

Of the Lines.

Now for your Lines, you ſhall vnderſtand that they are to be made of the ſtrongeſt, longeſt, and beſt growne Horſe haire that can be got, not that which groweth on his Maine, nor vpon the vpper part or ſetting on of his tayle, but that which groweth from the middle and inmoſt part of his dock, and ſo extendeth it ſelfe down to the ground, being the biggeſt and ſtrongeſt haires about the Horſe: neither are theſe haires to be gathered from poore, leane, & diſeaſed Iades of little price or value, but from the fatteſt, ſoundeſt, and proudeſt Horſe you can finde, for the beſt Horſe hath euer the beſt hayre; neither would your hayres be gathered from Nagges, Mares, or Geldings, but from ſtond-Horſes onely, of which the blacke haire is the worſt, the white or grey beſt, and other colours indifferent: thoſe Lines which you make for ſmall Fiſh, as Gudgeon, Witling, or Menow, would bee compoſed of three hayres: thoſe which you make for Pearch, or Trout, would be of fiue hayres: and thoſe for the Chub or Barbell, would be of ſeauen: to thoſe of three hayres you ſhall adde one threed of ſilke: to thoſe of fiue two threeds of ſilke: and to thoſe of ſeauen three threeds of ſilke: you ſhall twiſt your hayres neither too hard nor too ſlacke, but euen ſo as they may twinde and touche cloſe one within another and no more, without either ſnarling or gaping one from another: the end, you ſhall faſten together with a Fiſhers knot, which is your ordinary faſt knot, foulded foure times about, both vnder and aboue, for this will not looſe in the water, but being drawne cloſe together will continue when all other knots will faile, for a hayre being ſmooth and ſtiffe, will yeeld and goe backe if it bee not artificially drawne together: your ordinarie Line would be betweene three and foure fa-

doms

dome in length, yet, for as much as there are diuersities in the length of Rods, in the depth of waters, and in the places of ſtanding to Angle in, it ſhall be good to haue Lines of diuers lengths, and to take thoſe which ſhall be fitteſt for your purpoſe.

The colouring of Lines.

Theſe Lines, though the naturall hayres, being white or grey, be not much offenſiue, yet it ſhall not be amiſſe to colour them according to the ſeaſons of the yeere, for ſo they will leaſt ſcare the Fiſh, and ſooneſt intiſe them to bite with moſt greedines: and of colours the beſt is the Water-greene, which you ſhall make after this manner: Take a pottle of Allome water, and put thereunto a great handfull of Marigolds, and let them boile well till a yellow skum riſe vpon the water, then take halfe a pound of greene Copras, and as much Verdigreaſe, beaten to fine pouder, and put it with the haire into the water, and ſo let it boyle againe a pretty ſpace, and then ſet it by to coole for halfe a day: then take out your hayre, and lay it where it may dry, and you ſhal ſee it of a delicate greene colour, which indeed is the beſt Watergreene that may be.

This colour is excellent to Angle with in all cleere waters where the Line lies plaine and moſt diſcouered, and will continue from the beginning of the Spring to the beginning of Winter. Now if you will haue your Lines of a yellow colour, you ſhall boile your haire in Allome water, mixt onely with Marigolds, and a handful of Turmerick: but if you cannot get Turmericke, then you ſhal ſtampe ſo much of greene Walnut-tree leaues, and mixe it with the water, and ſteepe your haire there in twenty and foure houres at leaſt.

Lines of this colour are good to Angle with in waters that are cleere, yet full of weeds, ſedge, & ſuch like,

for it is not vnlike to the ſtalkes of theſe weedes, and it will well continue to Angle withal the firſt part of the winter, as from before Michaelmas til after Chriſtmas.

If you will haue your Lines of a Ruſſet colour, you ſhall take a quart of Allome water, and as much ſtrong Lye, then put thereto a handfull of ſoote, and as much browne of Spaine, and after it hath boyled an houre or two, ſet it by to coole, and when it is colde ſteepe your hayre therein a day and a night, and then hang it vp to drye: theſe coloured Lines are good to Angle with in all deepe waters, whether they be Riuers or ſtanding Pooles, as Ponds, and ſuch like, and are moſt in vſe from Chriſtmas till after Eaſter.

Now if you will haue your Lines of a Browne or Duſkiſh colour, you ſhall take a pound of Vmber, and halfe ſo much Soote, and ſeeth it in a pottle of Ale a good ſpace, then when it is cold ſteep your hayres therein a day and a night, and then hange them vp to drye, and the colour will be perfect, yet euer the darker you would haue it, the more Vmber put vnto it: theſe Lines are excellent to Angle with in waters that are black, deepe, and muddy, be they either running or ſtanding waters, and will continue al ſeaſons of the yeere whatſoeuer, onely in bright waters they are too blacke, and caſt too large a ſhadow. Laſtly, if you would haue your Lines of a tawny colour (although in the water it ſhewth almoſt all one with the other darker colours) you ſhall take Lime and water, mixe it together, & ſteep your haire therein halfe a day, and then take it forth and ſteepe it double ſo long time in Tanners ouze, and then hang it vp to dry, and the colour will be perfect: theſe Lines are beſt to Angle with in moriſh and heathy waters, which are of a reddiſh colour, and wil ſerue for that

purpose al seasons of the yeere: if with this colour, or the greene, you mixe a siluer threed it will not be amisse, & with the other colours a gold threed it is good also: and note, that at each end of your Line you make a loope, the one to fasten to the toppe of your Rodde, being the larger, and the other to fasten your hooke-Line vnto, which would be some what lesser.

After your Lines be made, you shall make your Corks in this manner: take of the best and thickest Corke you get, and with a fine Razor hauing pared it smooth on the outside, cut it into the fashion of a long *Katherine* Peare, bigge and round at the one end, & long and slender at the other, and according to the strength of your Line, so make your worke bigger or lesser, as for a Line of three hayres, a Corke of an inch and halfe in length, and as much in compasse in the thickest part is bigge enough: and for a Line of more haires, a Corke of more length, & compasse will become it: and indeed to speak truly for as much as it serueth, but only for a direction to your eye to know when the fish biteth, & when you shal strike, the lesser your Corke is, the better it is, and breedeth lesse affright in the water, in so much that many Anglers will fish without any Corke, with a bare quill only, but that it is not so certaine, nor giueth so sure direction as the Corke doth. After you haue shaped your Corke, you shal with a hot Iron boar a hole, long-wise, through the middest thereof, and into that hole thrust a quill, & through the quill draw your Line, and fasten them both together with a wedge of the hard end of the goose feather: and note that both your quill and your wedge be white, for that breedeth least offence on the water, then place the smaller end of your Corke downe towardes your hooke, and the bigger end towards your rod, that

Of the Corke.

the ſmaller end, ſinking downe with the hooke, the bigger may ſoate aloft and beare the quill vpward, which when at any time, you ſee or perceiue puld downe into the water, then you may ſafely ſtrike, for without doubt it is an aſſured ſigne that the fiſh hath bitten at the baite.

There be other Anglers which make their Corkes in the faſhion of a Nunne-gigge, ſmall at both ends, and bigge in the middeſt, and it is not much to be diſliked, onely it is a little ſooner apt to ſinke, and you may thereby ſtrike before the fiſh haue fully bitten. Others ſhape their Corkes in the faſhion of a whirle, or of a little Apple, round, flattiſh of both ſides, and this Corke is beſt, to Angle for the greateſt fiſhes, becauſe it being not ſo apt to ſinke, will ſoate till the hooke bee faſtned, and that the fiſh beginneth to ſhut away with the bayte, ſo that a man then ſtriking can ſeldome or neuer looſe his labour.

Of Angle hookes.

Next to your Corkes is your hookes, and they be of diuers ſhapes and faſhions, ſome bigge, ſome little, ſome between both, according to the fiſh at which you angle, the beſt ſubſtance whereof to make them, is either old Spaniſh Needles, or els ſtrong Wyer drawne as neere as may be to that hight of tempers, which being neeled and alayde in the fire, you may bend and bow at your pleaſure. Now for the beſt ſoftning of your wyer, if you make your hookes of old Needles, you ſhall neede but to hold them in the blaze of a Candle till they be red hot, and then let them coole of themſelues, and they will be ſoft, & plyant enough, but if you make your hookes of ſtrong Spaniſh wyre, you ſhall roule it rounde, and then lye it vpon burning Char-coales,

turning it vp and downe till it be all red hot in euery place, then let it gently coole of it selfe, and it will be soft enough. Now for the making of your hookes, I aduise you to goe to such as are best reputed for making of them, and buy of all sorts of hookes from the biggest to the least, that is to say, from that which taketh the Loach, to that which taketh the Salmon, and let them lye before you for examples: then looke of what sort of hookes you intend to make, and with a fine file, first make the point of your hooke, which would neyther be too sharpe, for then it will catch hold of euery thing, when it should not, nor too blunt, least it faile to take hold when there is occasion: therefore in that obserue a meane, making it lesse sharpe then a fine Needle, and more sharpe then a small pinne. When you haue made the point then with a thinne knife of a very good edge, you shal cut out and raise vp the berd which you shall make greater or lesse, according to the bignesse of the hooke, and the and the strength of the Wyer: for you must by no meanes cut the beard so deepe, that thereby you weaken the hooke, but it must be as strong in that place as any other. When the point and beard is made, you shall with a fine paire of round Plyers turne and compasse the hooke about, making it round, circular-wise, being somewhat more then a semicircle, and euer obserue that the rounder the compasse or bought commeth in, that so much the better proportioned the hook is. This done, you shall leaue as much as you thinke conuenient for the shanke, and then cut it off from the rest of the Wyer: which done, you shall beate the end downe flat, and somewhat broader then the rest, and so polish and smoothe it all ouer, then heating it

red hot in a little pan of Charcoales put it ſuddainly into the Water, and quench it, which will bring your hooke to a ful ſtrength and hardneſſe. Thus you ſee how to make hookes of al ſizes and ſhapes, whether they be ſingle or double hookes, for although the quantities alter, yet the ſhapes do not; and the double hookes which is, the Pike-hooke is no other, but two ſingle hookes all of one Wyer, turned contrary waies: and this double hooke muſt not haue the Line fixt vnto it, but a ſtrong Wyer ioynted vnto it of three inches long, wel wound about and warped with a ſmaller Wyer: then to it another Wyer of the ſame length, as if they were two ſeueral linkes ioyned together, and then the Line fixed to the laſt Linke, and therefore are called armed hookes, for they defend the line from ſhearing or cutting in pieces with the teeth of the Pike.

Now for your ſingle Hookes, you ſhal thus fixe them vnto your Lines, take a length of your twiſted Hayres, contayning that number which is fit for the hook, and hauing made a ſtrong loope at the one end, lay the other end where is no bought vpon the inſide of your hook, then with a ſtrong red ſilke, eyther ſingle or double, according to the bigneſſe of the hooke, being wel waxed, whippe and warp the hook round about, as thicke, cloſe, and ſtrait as may be, in ſuch ſort as you ſee men whip their Bow-ſtrings, and in the ſame manner make the ends of your ſilke faſt; then with a payre of fizers cut the ſilke and haires off cloſe by the hooke, and you may be ſure that they will not looſe one from another, with reaſonable violence.

After your hook is thus faſtned to your Line, you ſhal then plumbe your Line, which is to fixe certayne pieces of Lead, according to the bigneſſe of your Line

about

about it, some being in length a quarter of an inch, some halfe an inch, some bigger, and some lesse, according vnto the waight of your Hooke, and bignesse of your Corke, for these plumets are but only to carry down your hooke, and lay it in the bottome, neither being so heauy to make the Corke sinke, nor so light as not with the smallest touch to make the Corke dip into the water; you shal then vnderstand that your first plumet would be twelue or foureteene inches from the Hooke, the rest not aboue one inch distance one from another, not being aboue fiue or seauen at the most, albe some Anglers vse nine, and some more, as their fancies rules them. There is in plumbing of Lines three seuerall fashions of plumets vsed, as one long, another square, and the third in a Diamond forme, but all tending to one end, haue but one vse, and the long ones are accounted the best, so that they be neatly set to, and the ends very smooth and close layd downe, so that they tangle not the Line by catching hold vpon Weeds, or other trash in the bottome of the water.

Thus haue you seene the best choise of Rods, Lines, Corkes, and Hookes, and how to fixe and couple them altogether to doe their seuerall Offices, it now resteth that wee speake of other necessary implements, which should accompany the painefull and industrious *Angler*, and they be these: He shal besides these before spoken of, haue a large Musket bullet, through which hauing fixed a double twisted threed, and therof made a strong loope, he may at his pleasure hang it vpon his hooke, and therewith sound the depth of euery water, and so know how to plumbe his lines, and place his Corke in their due places, then he shal haue a large ring of lead, six inches at lest in compasse, & made fast to a smal long line, through

Of other implements for Anglers.

through which, thrusting your Angle-rod, and letting it fall into the Water by your haire Line, it wil helpe to vnlooſe your Hooke if it be faſtned, eyther vppon weeds or other ſtones in the Water.

Then he ſhal haue a fine ſmooth board of ſome curious Wood for ſhew ſake, being as bigge as a Trencher, and cut battlement-wiſe at each end, on which he ſhal fold his ſeueral Lines. His hookes he ſhal haue in a dry cloſe boxe; he ſhal haue a little Bagge of red cloath, to carry his wormes in, and mixe with them a little freſh mould and Fennel; then he ſhal either haue a cloſe ſtopt Horne, in which he ſhall keep Maggots, Bobbes, Palmers, and ſuch like, or a hollow Cane, in which he may put them, and Scarrabs: He ſhal haue a cloſe boxe for all ſorts of liue flyes, and another for Needles, Silke, Threed, Waxe, and looſe haires, then a roule of pitcht threed to mend the Angle-rod withal, if it chance to breake, a file, a knife, a Pouch with many purſes, in which you may place all your implements whatſoeuer ſeuerally.

Laſtly, hee ſhal haue a little fine wanded Pebbe to hang by his ſide, in which he ſhal put the fiſh he catcheth, and a ſmal round Net faſtned vnto a poales end, wherewith he may land a Pike, or any other great fiſh of that kinde whatſoeuer. To haue alſo a little Boate or Cot, if you Angle in great waters, to carry you vp and downe, to the moſt conueniente ſt places for your aduaxe, is alſo right neceſſary, and fit for an Angler; and thus I haue ſhewed you the ſubſtance of the Anglers inſtruments.

Chap.

Chap. II.

Of the Anglers Apparell, and inward qualities.

TOuching the Anglers apparrell (for it is a respect as necessary as any other whatsoever) it would by no meanes be garish, light coloured, or shining, for whatsoever with a glittering hew reflecteth vppon the water, immediately it frighteth the Fish, and maketh them flye from his presence, no hunger being able to tempt them to bite, when their eye is offended: and of all creatures there is none more sharpe sighted then Fishes are. Let then your apparel be plaine and comely, of a darke colour, as Russet, Tawny, or such like, close to your body, without any new fashioned slashes, or hanging sleeues, waving loose, like sailes about you, for they are like Blinks which will euer chase your Game from you: let it for your owne health and ease sake, be warme and well lined, that neyther the coldnesse of the ayre, nor the moistnesse of the water may offend you: keep your head and feet dry, for from the offence of them springeth Agues, and worse infirmities. Anglers apparell.

Now for the inward qualities of the minde, albe some Writers reduce them into twelue heads, which indeed whosoeuer inioyeth cannot chuse but be very compleat in much perfection, yet I must draw them into many moe braunches. The first, and most especial whereof, is, that a skilfull Angler ought to bee a generall Scholler, and seene in all the Liberal Sciences, as a Grammarian, to know how eyther to Write or Discourse of his Art in true and fitting termes, eyther without affectation or rudenes. He should haue sweetnes of speech, Anglers vertues.

to

to perſwade and intice other to delight in an Exerciſe ſo much Laudable. He ſhould haue ſtrength of arguments to defend and maintayne his profeſſion, againſt Enuy or ſlaunder. Hee ſhould haue knowledge in the Sunne, Moone, and Starres, that by their Aſpects hee may gueſſe the ſeaſonableneſſe, or vnſeaſonableneſſe of the weather, the breeding of ſtormes, and from what coaſtes the Windes are euer deliuered. Hee ſhould be a good knower of Countries, and well vſed to high wayes, that by taking the readieſt pathes to euery Lake, Brooke, or Riuer, his iournies may be more certayne and leſſe wearifome. He ſhould haue knowledge in proportions of all ſorts, whether Circular, Square, or Diametrical, that when he ſhal be queſtioned of his diſurnal Progreſſes, hee may giue a Geographical diſcription of the Angles and Channels of Riuers, how they fal from their heads, and what compaſſes they fetch in their ſeueral windings. He muſt alſo haue the perfect Art of numbring, that in the ſounding of Lakes or Riuers, he may know how many foot or inches each ſeuerally contayneth, and by adding, ſubtracting, or multiplying the ſame, he may yeeld the reaſon of euery Riuers ſwift or ſlow Current. He would not be vnskilful in Muſicke, that whenſoeuer eyther melancholy, heauineſſe of his thought, or the perturbations of his owne fancies ſtirreth vp ſadneſſe in him, he may remooue the ſame with ſome godly Hymne or Antheme, of which *Dauid* giues him ample examples.

He muſt be of a well ſetled and conſtant beliefe, to inioy the benefit of his Expectation, for then to Diſpayre, it were better neuer to put in practiſe: And he muſt euer thinke where the waters are pleaſant and any thing likely, that there the Creator of all good things

hath

hath ſtored vp much of his plenty: and though your ſatisfaction bee not as ready as your wiſhes, yet you muſt hope ſtill, that with perſeuerance you ſhal reape the fulneſſe of your Haruеſt with contentment: Then hee muſt be ful of loue, both to his pleaſure and to his Neighbour: To his pleaſure, which otherwiſe would be irkeſome and tedious, and to his neighbour that he neither giue offence in any particular, nor bee guilty of any general deſtruction: Then hee muſt be exceeding patient, and neither vexe nor excruciate himſelfe with loſſes or miſchances, as in looſing the pray when it is almoſt in the hand, or by breaking his Tooles by ignorance or negligence, but with a pleaſed ſufferance amend errors, and thinke miſchances inſtructions to better carefulnes.

He muſt then be ful of humble thoughts, not diſdayning when occaſion commands to kneele, lye downe, or wet his feet or fingers, as oft as there is any aduantage giuen thereby, vnto the gaining the end of his labour. Then he muſt be ſtrong and valiant, neither to be amazed with ſtormes, nor affrighted with Thunder, but to hold them according to their naturall cauſes, and the pleaſure of the Higheſt: neyther muſt he, like the Foxe which prayeth vpon Lambes, imploy all his labour againſt the ſmaller Frie, but like the Lyon that ſeazeth Elephants, thinke the greateſt Fiſh which ſwimmeth, a reward little enough for the paines which he endureth. Then muſt he be liberal, and not working only for his owne belly, as if it could neuer be ſatisfied; but he muſt with much cheerefulneſſe beſtow the fruites of his skill amongſt his honeſt neighbours, who being partners of his gaine, wil doubly renowne his tryumph, and that is euer a pleaſing reward to vertue.

Then

Then muſt he be prudent, that apprehending the Reaſons why the Fiſh will not bite, and all other caſuall impediments which hinder his ſport, and knowing the Remedies for the ſame, hee may direct his Labours to be without troubleſomneſſe: Then hee muſt haue a moderate contentation of minde, to be ſatiſfied with indifferent things, and not out of an auaricious greedineſſe thinke euery thing too little, be it neuer ſo abundant: Then muſt he be of a thankefull nature, praiſing the Author of all goodneſſe, and ſhewing a large gratefulneſſe for the leaſt ſatisfaction: Then muſt he be of a perfect memory, quicke, and prompt to call into his minde all the needfull things which are any way in his Exerciſe to be imployed, leaſt by omiſſion or by forgetfulneſſe of any, he fruſtate his hopes, and make his Labour effectleſſe. Laſtly, hee muſt be of a ſtrong conſtitution of body, able to endure much faſting, and not of a gnawing ſtomacke, obſeruing houres, in which if it be vnſatisfied, it troubleth both the minde and body, and looſeth that delight which maketh the paſtime onely pleaſing.

Thus hauing ſhewed the inward Vertues and qualities which ſhould alwayes accompany a perfect Angler, it is very meet now to giue vnto you certaine Cautions, which being carefully obſerued, you ſhall with more eaſe obtayne the fulneſſe of your deſires. Firſt therefore, when you go to Angle, you ſhall obſerue that all your Tooles, Lines, or Implements be (as the Sea-man ſayth) yare, fit, and ready, for to haue them raueld, ill made, or in vnreadineſſe, they are great hindrances vnto your pleaſure. Then looke that your baites bee good, ſweete, fine, and agreeing with the Seaſon: for if they be otherwiſe vnproper in any of their natures, they are

Cautions.

vſe-

vſeleſſe, and you had beene better at home then by the Riuer. Then you muſt not Angle in vnſeaſonable times, for the Fiſh not being inclined to bite, it is a ſtrange intiſement that can compell them: Then you muſt be carefull neyther by your apparell, motions, or too open ſtanding to giue afright to the Fiſh, for when they are ſcared they flye from you, and you ſeeke ſociely in an empty Houſe. Then muſt you labour in cleere and vntroubled waters, for when the Brookes are any thing white, muddy, and thicke, eyther through inundations or other trouble, it is impoſſible to get any thing with the Angle: Then to reſpect the temper of the weather, for extreame winde or extreame cold taketh from Fiſh all manner of appetite: So doth likewiſe too violent heate or raine, that is great, heauy, and beating, or any ſtormes, Snowes, Hailes, or bluſtrings, eſpecially, that which commeth from the Eaſt, which of all is the worſt: thoſe which blow from the South are beſt, and thoſe which come from the North or Weſt are indifferent: Many other obſeruations there are, but they ſhall follow in their due places.

Chap. 12.

Of the beſt and worſt Seaſons to Angle in, and their vſes.

BEfore I direct you in the beſt Seaſons, and their contrary, for the generall Art of Angling, I thinke it not amiſſe, a little by the way, to giue you a glaunce or ſpeculation how to order your Body and Art of each ſeuerall water: for the manner of your ſtanding and concealing of your ſelfe, is a materiall and chiefe poynt in this Art.

Know

The Anglers manner of standing.

Know then, that if you Angle in any Pond or standing water, you shal before you fal to your businesse, with your Plumbe, sound the water in diuers places, and where you find it deepest, blackest, and least transparent, there you shal stand to Angle, placing your selfe vnder the banke, and if it be possible, so as your shaddow may be carried from the water: For you must at no time, if you can chuse, let your shaddow lye vppon the water: and although in these deep places your standing open or close, are eyther of them reckoned indifferently, because the waters depth is a sufficient concealement, yet the closer you stand is accounted amongst Anglers most handsome and artificial.

But if you go to Angle at the Riuer, then the best place to cast in your Line, is where it is deepest and clearest, so as you may behold the Sand or Grauell at the bottome: and in these places you shal striue to conceale your selfe as much as is possible, as standing behind Poplars, Oziers, or other Trees, or vnder the couert of some Banke, Rocke, or other ruines at the side of the Riuer: also in couert places, where are many Weeds, rootes of Trees, and other rubbush, is good Angling, but very troublesome, for Fish lying there warme and in safety, wil haue a great resort thereunto, and bite freely, so that the Angler must be careful in the putting in of his hooke, and very deliberate in striking, least doing any thing rashly, he breake his Line and Hooke, being neuer so little intangled.

It is good also to Angle in Whirle-pooles, for they being like pits within the Riuers, are seldome vnfurnished of the greatest Fishes; also, it is good to Angle at the fals of waters, as vnder Bridges, standing behind the Iawmes and Arches, or at the flood-gates of Mils,

being

being hid with the higher Timbers. And generally where you see the Water is deepest, clearest, and calmest, being least troubled with winde or weather, is the fittest place to angle in. Other obseruations there are, but they will follow in more necessarie places.

To returne then to our first purpose. You shall know the best seasons to Angle in, is from Aprill till the end of October, speaking of the generall vse of the pleasures: and the best houres also in generall account, are from foure in the morning till nine, and from three in the afternoone till after fiue in the Euening, the winde blowing from South, West, or North, and the ayre temperate, inclined to warmenesse: but to speake of particular obseruations of seasons, know, that if the day be darke, close, and lowring, or haue a gentle whistling winde playing vpon the water, it is good to Angle in, and the Fish will byte with pleasure: nay, if a fine mizling dew of rayne fall gently, without violence, they wil then byte the faster: also after flouds are gone away, and the Riuers are come within their owne bankes, their first cleerenesse recouered, and the water pure, then it is good to Angle. And generally for your Summer Angling chuse the coolest time of the day, for in the heate of the day Fish betake themselues to their rest, and will neyther byte nor play. The best seasons to Angle in.

But for your Winter Angling, which is from October to Aprill, you shall not make any difference of time, if the weather be calme, for all houres of the Sunne are alike, onely the the noone-tide or mid-day is most preferred, especially in Ponds, and standing waters. If the the water where you Angle, ebbe or flow, the best time of Angling is held to be in the ebbe: yet in some places where the tyde is not great, there the flood is preferred.

Lastly, whensoeuer you see the Trout play or leape aboue the water, and the Pyke shut in persuit of other Fishes; it is then a very good time to Angle in, vsing such baite as are then meet for the month and season, as shall be shewed hereafter.

Seasons ill to Angle in.

Now for those seasons which are naught to Angle in, there is none worse then in the violent heate of the day, or when the Windes are loudest, Raine heauiest, Snow and Hayle extreamest: Thunder and Lightning are offensiue, or any sharpe ayre which flyeth from the East: the places where men vse to wash Sheepe you shall forbeare, for the very smell of the wooll will chase fish from their haunts. Land floods are enemies to Anglers, so also at the fall of the leafe is the shedding of leanes into the water, and many other such like polutions, of which we will speake something more hereafter.

Of Fishes haunts.

Therefore, to conclude this Chapter, and to shew you as well how to finde your fish, as the Art to take it being found, you shall know that the Carpe, Eele, and Tench, doe euer haunt muddy places: the first, which is the Carpe, lyeth euer in the depth and bottom thereof: the Tench, among the weedes and rootes of Sedges, and the Eele vnder stones, blockes, or the roots of Trees.

The Breame, the Chauin, and the Pyke, haunt euer in the cleare and sandie bottom, the Pyke where you see great store of small fry: the Chauin where the streame runneth swiftest, and the shade is greatest, and the Breame where the water is broadest, and the depth giueth greatest liberty; and generally these three sorts of fish delight more in standing waters then in running Riuers, although the ancient Prouerbe is,

Ancome Ele, and Witham Pike,
In all England is none ſike.

which are Riuers in *Lincolne ſhire*. Now the Salmon hath his haunt in the ſwifteſt and broadeſt riuers, whoſe Channels fal down into the Sea: The Trout loueth ſmaller brooks, whoſe currant is ſwift, cleare, and gravelly, and euer hath his lodging in the deepeſt holes that are therein; and the Pearch hanteth riuers of the ſame nature, only he abideth moſt in the creekes and hollowneſſes, which are about the bank, and indeed theſe three fiſhes generally, Salmon, Trout, and Pearch, loue cleare ſtreames, being greene with weeds, and the bottomes hard with grauel and pibble.

The Gudgen, the Loach, and the Bulhead, haunt euer ſhalloweſt places, and where ſtreames are ſlow, yet tranſparent: The Barbell, Roch, Dace, and Ruffe, haunt the deepe ſtady places of thoſe brookes which are mixt with more ſand then grauell, or where the clay is firme, and not ſlimie, and delight euer to lye vnder the ſhadowes of trees, brambles or other thinges growing fom the banke.

The Luce or Lucerne, which indeede is but the ouergrowne Pyke, haunteth the broad and large Meares, which are miles in compaſſe, being deepe and ſtill, and euer lodgeth in the bottome thereof amongſt the the rootes and tufts of Sedge, and Bulruſhes, being quiet and leaſt troubled. The Humber haunts the clayie Riuers of hye Countries, where the ſoyle is rich and full of Marle, or in Lakes or Ponds of the ſame nature. The Shade and Tweat, haunt thoſe waters which are brackiſh, deepe, and accuſtomed to ebbe and flow,

and where they haunt, there commonly also is found both the Mullet and the Suant, all which loue to lodge close and flat at the bottome of the water, so it be more Ooze then grauel.

Obiection. But heere now me thinkes, I heare the curious reprehend me, saying, that if these Rules should be infallible, that then no Riuer or Pond could contayne aboue three sorts of Fish only, when daily Experience sheweth vs, that some Riuers haue ten, some twenty, and some thirty, as the *Trent*: For example, whose auncient name in the French is *Trianta*, in Latine *Trigenta*, and in English thirty, deriued from this ground, because there standeth vppon her thirty Castles, thirty Market Townes, and are in her thirty seueral sorts of fishes.

Answere. To which I thus answere, that forasmuch as into most Riuers falleth many seuerall Waters, and many soiles, according vnto the nature of those Countries, through which the Channels runne, that therefore euery alteration of soile may alter the breed of Frye, and many seueral kindes may be in one Streame, so that the Angler in the choise of his pastime in such places, must eyther haue a perfect knowledge how the soiles doe alter (which he may commonly know by the Bankes,) or else relie vppon his Experience; which wil be the best Tutor to direct him vnto the haunts of seuerall fishes, but for ponds or standing waters which are of one earth, there you shal surely find them best prosper, which are before Rehearsed.

Chap. 13.

Of Baites in generall, and of euery particular kinde. their Seasons, Vse, and Preseruations.

SInce I haue thus far orderly passed ouer the outward and instrumental necessaries appertaining to this modest Recreation, shewing the seueral tooles and implements which are to be imployed therein, and hath also shewed the inward and mental knowledge which should be harboured in his Breast that wil be an Angler; I will now proceede to speake of the Baites and inticements, which are the agents and effecters of our desires in this pastime, without which all other imployments are vaine and vseless: for what doth it auaile to haue all other things in perfection, when this, which is the strength and life of the rest, is eyther imperfect or defectiue.

To speake then generally of Baites, they are diuided into three kinds, which are, Liue baites, Dead baites, & Baites liuing but in apparance onely. Your Liue baits are wormes of all kindes, especially the Red worme, the Maggot, the Bobbe, the Dor, browne Flyes, Frogs, Grashoppers, Hornets, Waspes, Bees, Snailes, smal Roches, Bleakes, Goodgins or Loches. Your dead baites are pastes of all makings, young brood of Wasps dried or vndried, the clotterd blood of Sheep, Cheese, Bramble-berries, Corne, Seedes, Cherries, and such like. And your Baites which seeme to Liue, yet are Dead, are Flyes artificially made of all sorts and shapes, made of silke and Feathers about your hookes, which wil serue for euery seueral Season through the

yeere, and being by your line moued vpon the water, ſeeme to be liue Flyes, which the fiſh with great greedineſſe will catch vp and deuoure.

Seaſons. Now for the ſeaſons, in which theſe baites are moſt profitable, you ſhall vnderſtand that the red-worme will ſerue for ſmall fiſh all the yeere long: the Maggot is good in Iuly, the Bobbe and Dore in May, the browne Flyes in Iune, Frogges in March, Graſhoppers in September, Hornets in Iuly, Waſpes and Bees in Iuly, Snayles in Auguſt. For the Roche, Bleake, or Gudgin, they ſerue the Pyke at any ſeaſon: all Paſts are good in May, Iune, and Iuly: dryed Waſpes in May: Sheepes-bloud and Cheeſe in Aprill: for Bramble berries, Corne and Seedes, they are good at the fall of the leafe. Laſtly for your dead Flyes, which are moſt proper for the Trout or Grayling, you ſhall know that the Dun fly is good in March, being the leſſer, but the greater Dun-fly will ſerue the latter end of February: the Stone-flye is good in Aprill, the Red flye, and Yellow flye in May, the Blacke flye, the darke Yellow flye, and the Moriſh flye in Iune, the Tawny flye part in May, and part of Iune, the Waſpe-flye, and the ſhell flye in Iuly, and the clowdie darke fly in Auguſt.

Of Flyes.

The making of Flyes. Now for the making of theſe flyes the cloudy darke flye is made of black wooll, clipt from between a ſheeps eares, and whipt about with blacke ſilke, his wings of the vnder maile of the Mallard, & his head made blacke and ſutable, fixed vpon a fine peece of Cork, and folded ſo cunningly about the hooke, that nothing may be perceiued but the poynt and bearde onely. The ſhell-flye is made of fine greene floxe, and the wings of the winges of a Pew-glead: the Waſpe-flye

is

is made of blacke wooll, lapt about with yellow silke, and the wings of the downe of a Buzzard: the Tawny flye is made of tawny wooll, and the wings set one contrary to another, and made of the white downe of a Widgen: the Morish flye is made of fine flockes, shorne from a freese-gray russet, and the wings of a Drake: the bright yellow flye is made of yellow wooll, and his wings of a red Cockes yellow mayne: the sad yellow flye is made of blacke wooll, with a twisted yellow silke, like a list, whipt downe on either side, and the wings of the wings of a Buzzard, set on with blacke threed: the blacke flye is made of blacke wooll, and lapt about with the herle of the Peacocks taile, his wings with the browne feathers of the Mallard, and some of his blew feathers on his head: the red flye is made of red wooll, lapt about with blacke silke, and the wings of the maile of a Mallard, with some of the red feathers of a Capon, the stone flye is made is made of blacke wooll made yellow vnder the wings, and vnder the taile with silke, and the wings, of Drakes downe: the greater dun-flye is made of blacke wooll, and his wings of the dunne feathers of a Drakes tayle, the lesser dunne-flye is made of dunne wooll, and his wings of the maile of a Partridge.

Now for the shapes and proportions of these flyes, it is impossible to discribe them without painting, therefore you shall take of these seuerall flyes aliue, and laying them before you, try how neere your Art can come vnto nature by an equall shape and mixture of colours; & when you haue made them, you may keepe them in close boxes vncrushed, and they will serue you many yeeres.

Now for the preseruation and keeping of your quick

Preſeruation of Baits.

baites (for longer then they are neate and ſweet they are not good:) you ſhal vnderſtand, that they muſt not bee kept altogether, but euery kinde ſeuerall by it ſelfe, and nouriſhed with ſuch comforts as it delighteth in, when it is at liberty, or with ſuch things as they breed in or vppon when they are firſt taken. And firſt for the Red worme: when you take them, you ſhall put them in a bagge of red cloath, and chopping a handful of Fennel, mixe it with halfe ſo much freſh mould beeing blacke and fertile, and they wil both liue and ſcower therein: There be ſome Anglers which put wet Moſſe, both vnder and aboue them: Others there be which put Parſly or ſweet Marioram vnto them, but the former way is the beſt, ſo you obſerue euery night to renew their Earth, or once in two dayes to refreſh them with a little new Oxe dung, & thus you may keep them two moneths without imperfection: for the great white Maggots, you ſhal mixe with them ſheeps tallow, or little bits of a beaſts Liuer, the beſt way to ſcoure them, is to put them into a bagge of blanketting, with fard, and hang them where they may haue the ayre of the fire, or other warmth, for the ſpace of an houre or two. For Frogs and Graſhoppers, you ſhal keep them in wet moſſe, and long graſſe, moiſtened euery night with Water, and when you angle with them you ſhal cut off their legges by the knees, and the Graſhoppers wings neere vnto the body; for other wormes, as the Bobbe, Cadis-worme, Canker, and ſuch like, you ſhall keep them with the ſame things you find them vppon: and for all liue Flies you ſhal vſe them as you take them, only the Waſpe, the Hornet, and Bumble Bee, which is without ſting, you ſhall firſt drye them a little in a warme ouen after the bread is drawne, and then dippe

all

all their heads into sheepes blood, and then dry them againe, and so keep them in a close boxe, and they wil continue two or three moneths in all good perfection.

Of making pastes.

Now lastly, to speake of your made baites, which are Pastes, the most of them wil last the whole yeare, and as they be diuers, so I wil shew you how to compound euery one of them in his true and perfect nature. First, to make Pastes that shal last the longest, you shal take Beane-flower, and those parts of the Conies leg which is called the Almond of the Cony: or if it bee of a fat young Whelpe, or a Cat, it is as good: and to these put a like quantity of Virgin waxe, and sheepes suet, and then beate them together in a Morter, vntil they bee made one body, then with a little clarified Hony temper it before the fire, and so make it vp in round bals, and it wil last all the yeare: and the vse thereof is, when you Angle, to baite your hooke therewith, and not any Fish which swimmeth in fresh waters, but wil greedily bite thereat.

There is also another Paste which is of equal quality and vse with this, and wil last as long, and that is to take the Kidney-Tallow of a Sheep, and as much young Cheese, and beat them in a morter til they be one body, then adde to them as much wheate-flower as wil bring it to an exceeding stiffe paste, then kneade it before the fire, and allay the stiffenesse with life hony, and so make it vp into bals.

The vse of this Paste is like the former. Take the blood of a Sheepe, and of Hony like quantity, and beate them together with a lumpe of fresh cheese, then with the fine grated crummes of white bread, worke them into a stiffe paste, & so role it vp in bals, and when you Angle do not baite your hooke therewith, but now

and

and then caſt little pellets thereof into the Water, and it wil intice the Fiſh to reſort vnto you, and to bite with great greedineſſe.

There bee others which take Bread crummes, and beat them in a Morter with ripe Cherries (the ſtones being taken out) vntil it come to a ſtiffe Paſte, and then knead it vp into bals, and vſe it as you do that which was laſt recited: it is moſt approued and very excellent for all ſorts of Fiſh in freſh waters.

Laſtly, if you take the oyle of the *Aſpray*, and *Coculus India*, and *Aſſerfidia* beaten, and mixt with as much life Hony, and then diſſolue them in the oyle of *Polypody*, and ſo keepe it in a cloſe glaſſe; then when you Angle, annoynte your baite but with this confection, and though the weather be neuer ſo vnſeaſonable, or the Fiſh neuer ſo ill diſpoſed to bite, yet bee ſure you ſhal not looſe your Labour, but take, when all men elſe faile of their purpoſe, for the ſecret hath bin rarely approoued, and hitherto hath bin concealed with great ſecreſie. And thus much for baites and their vſes.

Chap. 14.

Of Angling for euery ſeuerall kind of Fiſh, according to their natures.

NOw to ſhew you how you ſhal Angle moſt properly for euery ſeueral Fiſh, with true Art, according to the nature of the Fiſh, I thinke it not amiſſe firſt to begin with the Goodgin, Roch, and Dace, which being Fiſhes of eager bit, moſt fooliſh, leaſt afrightful, and ſooneſt deceiued, are the firſt fitteſt preyes for yong Scholars, and ſuch as are but Learners in the Art of Angling, for the eaſineſſe of their gaining wil not onely ſettle an

Of the Goodgin, Roch, and Dace:

vnreſolued

vnresolued minde, but giue vnto ignorance both comfort and incouragement.

If then you wil Angle for any of these smal Fishes in great streames, it shal be meet to take a Boat, and finding the places of their haunt, which is commonly in sandy cleare waters, and where they run swiftest, there Angle for them with your smallest hookes, wel leaded, and smallest Lines, wel Corckt. Your hooke would rather dragge then be an inch from the bottome, and your best baite is the Red-worme, Cod-worme, Maggot, clotted blood of Sheep cut in little bits, or elle the white Spawne or brood of Waspes: and euer assoon as you see the Corke stirre, suddainly strike, for they wil lye nibling at the baite, and finding the hooke, forsake it. If you Angle for them in smal Brooks, you shal stand vnder Bridges, at the fals of Mils, behind Poplars, or Oziers, or any where, where the streame runneth deep and swift: and euer note, that when your bit failes, you remooue your place, and seeke out a new standing, and withal forget not, euer when you Angle for any of these fish, to cast in some of your Paste before your hooke, for this wil make your sport much more abundant: and although the Dace, out of his owne nature, biteth high, and neere the top of the water, yet these baits and intisements wil mak him stoop, and be taken easily.

If you wil Angle for the Carpe, you must haue a strong Rod, and a strong Line, of at least seauen or nine haires, and eyther mixt with greene or watched silke: your Cork must be large, long, and smooth: your Leads smooth and close, and fixt neere the hooke, and the hook of almost a three penny compasse. He is very dainty to bite but at some especial houres, as very early in the morning, or very late at night, and therfore he must be very much

Of the Carpe.

much entiſed with Paſt: his beſt bayts are the Moſſe-worme, the redde-worme, or the Menow, for he ſeldome refuſeth them. The Cadis-worme is good for him in *Iune*, and the Maggot, Blacke worme, or Graſhopper, in *July*, *Auguſt*, and *September*. If you make him Paſte of ſoure Ale, white of eggs, and bread-crums, it will very much entiſe him: alſo I would euer wiſh you before you fiſh for the Carpe, to caſt in a handfull of white Bread chippings into the Pond or Riuer, for they will not onely intiſe him to your bayte, but alſo giue you notice if you be neere his haunt, for you ſhall preſently heare him ſmacke aboue the water, and then if you miſſe him, eyther your fortune or skill is not good.

Of the Chub, Chuein, or Trout.

If you will Angle for the Chub, Chuein, or Trout, all your Inſtruments muſt be ſtrong and good: your rod darke and diſcoloured, your line ſtrong, but ſmall and ſhort, you hooke of a two penny compaſſe, and if you Angle with a Flye, then, nor Lead, nor Corke, nor Quill, if otherwiſe, then all of a handſome and ſutable proportion.

The beſt ſtanding to take them is in cloſe and concealed places, as behind Trees, Walles, or Arches of Bridges: theyr haunts are in cleere waters which runne vpon Sand or Grauell, and they are in beſt ſeaſon from *March* till *Michaelmas*: if you Angle for them with dead Flyes, without Lead or Corke, I haue ſhewed you in the former Chapter, the ſeuerall flyes for each ſeuerall month; but if you angle for them with other baites, then you muſt haue both Corke and Lead, for he will bite neere the bottome, yet ſometimes you may angle for him with a ſmall Menow hangd at your hooke by the neyther parts, without Corke or Lead,

and

and ſo draw the bayte vpon the the top of the water, and both with it, and with euery flye, ſtrike rather before then after he byteth. If you Angle for him at the ground in *March*, *Aprill*, *May*, and *September*, the Menow is a good bayte, ſo is the ſtone-flye, Cadis-worme, Bobbe, red worme, ditch canker, young Frogges, the worme that breedeth on the Ozier-leafe and the Dock-canker mixt together. In *June* Crickets and Dore flye, are good: In *July* the Graſhopper is good, ſo is the humble Bee, dryed Waſpes or dryed Hornets, or any of their young brood in the Combes, in *Auguſt* flying Piſmires are good, ſo is the Colewort-worme, or the Maggot, and in *September* eyther Cherries, Mice before they haue any hayre, or the great Sow-worme.

I now will angle for the Eele, the beſt place is at Weares, Mill-ponds, bridges, hollow bankes, or any ſwift falling water: your Line ſtrong, and not aboue two elles in length, and very heauily plumde, a good round Hooke, but no Corke, becauſe you muſt not ſtrike till the Eele plucke: neyther muſt you by any meanes pull haſtily, but holding your Line ſtiffe, with labour and patience tire him, leaſt that tearing his chaps, you looſe him. The beſt bayte is the red worme, or little peeces of ſheepes guts. Of the Eele.

The Flounder and Sewant are greedy byters, yet very crafty: for they will nibble and ſucke at a bayt a good while before they ſwallow it, and if they perceiue the hooke, they will flye from it: therefore to make them more hafty of the bayte, you muſt euer be mouing your line, and ſeldome let it lye ſtill. They lye moſt commonly in the deepeſt places of the Riuer where the water is ſtilleſt, and runneth with leaſt force: Of the Flounder & Sewant.

alſo

alſo they lye neare vnto the banke, and delight moſt in the ſtreame, which is brackiſh, and mixt with the ſalt water. Your Line muſt be ſtrong, and wel plumbde neere to the hooke; and the beſt baite is the red Worm, and the young brood of Waſpes.

Of the Gray-ling or Barbell.

The Barbel or Grayling, which ſome cal the Vmber, are very ſubtle and crafty fiſhes: Therefore you muſt be very careful that your baites be ſweet and new, and when you angle for them, do in all things as you doe for the Trout, for they bite aloft in the Summer, and at the bottome in the Winter. Your Lines muſt be extraordinarily ſtrong, and your hookes of a three-penny Compaſſe, for they are fiſhes of waighty bodies, and when then are ſtrooke, muſt haue liberty to play, and tyre themſelues, or elſe they wil indanger the breaking of your Rod; and therfore your Line muſt be of the longeſt ſize.

Of the Breame

The beſt ſeaſon to angle for the Breame, is from the latter end of *February* til *September*, he is a very luſty ſtrong fiſh, and therefore your tooles muſt be good, the baites in which he moſt delighteth, is in wormes of all ſorts, Butterflies, greene flyes, paſte of bread crummes, or the brood of Waſpes.

Of the Tench.

The Tench is a fiſh that euer loueth the bottome of Riuers, where the Ooſe or mudde is thickeſt; and is moſt fit to be angled for in the height of Summer, for at other ſeaſons he is not apt to bite, and at all times he is very dainty.

The baites in which he delighteth moſt, is paſte that are very ſweet, and the browner the better, eſpecially if it be made with the blood of a ſheep. A greene red worme alſo he will bite, and ſo much the looner if you mixe them with this paſte: the Maggot and dryed

waſpe

Waſpe hee will ſeldome refuſe, chiefly being dipt in hony.

The Bleake, Ruffe, and Perch are fiſhes which bite neither hye nor low, but for the moſt part in the midſt of the water, therefore your Line muſt be very lightly plumbde, and farre from the hooke. The baites which moſt intice them, beſides the red-worme, is the houſe-flye in the Summer, and the fat of Bacon in the winter: in *Aprill* they wil bite wel at the Bobbe-worme or Maggot, and in all other ſeaſons they ſeldom refuſe any worme or canker. Your Line would bee ſmall, and well armed from the hooke a handful with ſmall wyer, for the teeth of the Perch wil elſe gnaw it a ſunder. Of the Bleake, Ruffe, and Perch.

The Pike is a fiſh of great ſtrength and waight, in ſo much that you can hardly haue a Line of haire to hold him, therefore your beſt Anglers vſe moſt commonly a Chaulke line, your Angle-rod alſo muſt haue no ſmall top, but be all of one piece and bigneſſe, and the Line made exceeding faſt for ſlipping; Your hooke would be of the ſtrongeſt wyer, white or yellow, and made double, the points turning two contrary wayes, and then armed with ſtrong wyer a foote at leaſt; his beſt baite is a little ſmal Roch, Dace, or Menow, the hooke being put in at the taile, and comming foorth vnder the gils, and you muſt ſeldome or neuer let your baite lye ſtil in the water, but draw it vp and down, as though the fiſh did moove in the water, and fledde from the Pike, for this will make him more eager and haſty to bite: and hauing bit, you muſt be ſure to tire him wel before you take him vp. Of the Pike.

The yellow liue Frogge is alſo an excellent baite for the Pike, for you muſt vnderſtand, that they naturally

rally delight not in any dead or vnmouing food.

There bee some which take a great deale of delight and pleasure to Snickel or halter the Pike, which is good when Pikes are broake out of Ponds or Riuers, and come into little smal Ditches or Rundels, as is oft to be seene in low Countries. The way then to halter them is, first to finde the Pike where he lyeth (which in the heat of the day, you may easily doe) then take your Chaulke-line, and making a large running nooze thereof, put it gently into the water, about two foot before the nose of the Pike, then when you feele it touch the ground, cause one to goe behind the Pike, and with a poale to stirre him, then as he shutteth, meet him with your nooze, and so with a suddaine and quicke ierke throw him vpon the Land. In this sport you must bee very ready, nimble, and quicke sighted, for if you giue him the least time, he will escape you.

Of Snickling the pyke

Now lastly, touching the angling for the Salmon, albe he is a fish which in truth is vnfit for your Trauaile, both because hee is too huge and cumbersome, as also in that he naturally delighteth to lie in the bottomes of great deepe Riuers, and as neere as may be in the bottomes of great deepe Riuers, and as neare as may bee in the middest of the Channel, yet for as much as many men esteeme that best which is got with most difficult, you shall vnderstand that the baites in which hee most delighteth are those which serue for the Trout, as paste or flyes in the Summer, and Red-wormes, Bob-wormes, or Cankers on the water-dockes after *Michaelmas*. And thus much for the *Arte* of *Angling*, and taking of each seuerall sort of fish which liue in the fresh or brackish waters.

Of the Salmon.

CHAP.

Chap. 15.

Of taking Fish without Angles, and first of laying Hookes.

THe laying of Hookes to take fish in the night, is most commonly vsed for the Pike, in great broad Waters or Meares, full of Sedge, Bulrushes, and other weedes, being very deepe, and muddy: Some doe vse to lay them for the Eele also, but you shal vnderstand, that if you lay for the Pike, you must by no meanes let your hooke go to the bottome, but with a floate keep it halfe a foot from the ground, but if you lay for Eeles, then let your Hookes be smaller, and sinke as low as they will.

Now for the manner of laying them, you shall baite the hookes as you did, when you Angled with Menow, Roch, Dace, Goodgen, or Millers-thumbe: and being made fast to strong packe-threed, fasten also that packthreed to a strong cord, which cord if it be three fadome in length, may hold sixteene or twenty hooks. Then fixing two strong stakes into the Earth, fasten the two endes of the bigge cord to the two stakes, and so let it lye from Sunne set vntill Sunne rise, and you shall neuer faile, but some of your Hookes will haue taken: Onely obserue if you lay for Pikes, to lay in the middest of the water, neere vnto the Sedge and Weedes: but if you lay for Eeles, lay very neere the Bankes, so there be no hollow or rotten trees growing thereon.

Now if you would with these layd hookes take any other sorts of fish, you shall lay such hookes as are fit for them: and before you depart away, cast into the

Water good ſtore of pellets of thoſe paſtes which are proper for the fiſhes you would take: as the paſte which is made of Branne, Sheepes blood, Garlicke, and Lees of Wine, wil take all ſorts of ſmal fiſh: that paſte which is made of ſheepes Liuer, Guts, Hogges blood, Bread crummes, and *Opoponaxe*, wil bring Pearch, Tench, Carpe, or Breame vnto your hookes, and that paſte which is only made of Rue, Pine-apple kernels, Beane-meale and Hony, will bring the Salmon, the Trout, Cheuan, or Barbell, vnto your hookes at all times of the yeare.

Chap. 16.

Of preſeruing Fiſh from all ſorts of Deuourers.

AMongſt all the rauenous Creatures which Deſtroy Fiſh, there is none more greedy then the Otter, whoſe only food being thereon, hourely lyeth in waite to conſume them: Therefore though ſome Fiſher-men vſe to take him with a Weele made with a double tunnel, and called by the name of the Otter-weele, whoſe practiſe is ſo ordinary that euery Fiſherman knowes the vſe of the ſame: Yet for a more ready and eaſie way to deſtroy him, you ſhall as neere as you can finde out his haunt, and the holes that are in the banke, and vnder the Rootes of Trees where hee lodgeth, and then take a great Eele, and ſlitting her backe aboue her nauel, put in three or foure lumps of *Arſnicke*, and then ſtitch vp the skinne againe, and ſo lay the Eele from the nauell downward in the water, and from the nauel vpward out of the water: which when the Otter findes, it is his properry to eate vnto the nauell and no further,

which

which if he do it is certaine that it is the laſt he wil eate.

Next to the Otter, the Herne is a great deuourer of Fiſh, eſpecially the ſmall Frye, or that which liues in ſhallow places: therefore to deſtroy the Herne, you ſhal take a ſtrong Barbel hooke, and baite it, eyther with a Menow, or a peece of Dogges fleſh: colour your line greene, and lay it in a ſhallow place made faſt to ſome ſtake, where the Herne may wade to the knee to take it, and aſſoone as he hath ſwallowed it, he ſhal no more go from the place.

Now, for as much as this Fowle is a great deſtruction vnto the young Spawne or Frie of Fiſh, it ſhall bee good for the preſeruation thereof, to ſtake down into the bottomes of your Ponds good long Kids or Faggots of bruſh-woods, mixt with the boughes of greene willowes, or oziers, in which the Fiſh caſting their ſpawne, it will be a defence for them, till they be able to flye into better ſafety.

Next to the Herne, the water Rat is a great deſtroyer of young Fiſh, eſpecially Trouts, Creuiſles, or any that lye in holes in the bankes: the beſt way to deſtroy them is by hunting them with water Dogges, which is a very good ſport, and I haue ſeene twenty kild in an afternoone: but ſome do vſe to take them with Hutches, or dead-fals, ſet in their haunts, but the former way is the better.

Next them the Sea-pye, and Sea Mew, is a great Deuourer or conſumer of Fiſh, and there is no better way to take him then by ſetting Roddes dreſt with water Lime, and ſet ſhoring by the edge of the water, one geſſe or rowe ouer another, in ſuch places as the Water is moſt ſhalloweſt, and vppon ſome tufts of greene Weedes lay a fiſh for a baite vnder the rods, at which

he can no ſooner ſtrike but he is preſently taken.

Next theſe the Kings Fiſher (which is a Imal greene Bird) is a great deſtroyer of Fiſh, and the way to take him is to marke his haunt where he commonly ſitteth, which is euer in ſome Buſh next the Riuer; then ſet a little Cradle of lymde ſtraues about his ſeat, and they will quickely take him, for he ſeldome changeth, but euer ſitteth vppon one bough.

Now to conclude, for the Cormorant, the Morehen, the Bald coot, or the Oſpray, which deſtroy all kind of fiſh whatſoeuer, there is no way better to kill them then by watching their haunts, to ſhoot at them with a Fowling piece, and in the breeding time of the yeare to deſtroy their neſts.

Chap. 17.

Of the ordering of Ponds, for the nouriſhment of Fiſh.

THere is nothing that killeth Fiſh or maketh them to proſper worſe then putrified, and ſtinking Water: neither is there any thing which corrupteth water ſooner then Weeds, Sedge, and ſuch filthineſſe being ſuffered to grow therein: Therefore it ſhall be good once in three yeares for to cleanſe your Ponds of all manner of Weeds and filth, which with a ſmall Boat and a ſharp hooke you may eaſily do at the fall of the Leafe, for to cut them in the Spring doeth increaſe them. Now if your Ponds be much ſubiect to mudde, as for the moſt part thoſe in clay Countries are, then it ſhall bee good once in ſeauen yeares to draine them, and lade them, and this would be done at the beginning of the Spring; and ſuch Fiſh as you are willing and meane to preſerue,

you shall put into smaller pits or stewes, and the other dispose at your pleasure: then causing the mudde to bee troden with mens feet as you tread Morter, you shall see all the Eeles rise aloft, which when you haue taken also, then with Shouels and trough Spades cast out all the mudde and filth (which is a singular compasse for Land) vpon the Banke: then lodde the bottome of the Pond, and the sides with greene loddes, and fixe them hard into the earth with small stakes of Sallow, and these sides wil nourish the Fish exceedingly.

This done, if your Pond haue not any fresh Spring in it, then you shall lade the water backe againe into it, and then draining your stewes, take out your store of Fish, and put them againe into your Pond, obseruing euer that there be two parts spawners, and but a third melters.

These pits and small stewes, how so euer others write to the contrary, are better for feeding of Fish, then breeding: therefore you shall euer keep them with fresh water, and placing so one by another, that you may empty them at pleasure, once in three moneths renew their bankes and bottomes with fresh sods of the fruitefullest grasse: also, you shall put into them good store of small Frye of Roch, Dace, Menowe, Loche, and Miller-thumbes, for the bigger Fish will feed thereon: also the inward Garbadge and blood of Sheepe, calues, Hogges, and such like, which wil fat Fish incredibly, for you must know that as the Fish in Riuers haue, by vertue of the current, euer something brought to them to feed on, so the Fish which is imprisoned in ponds and wants that helpe, must either be relieued, or else perish, and there is nothing better to feed them with, then that before spoken, or else Brewers graines, chippings,

Curds, and any corne whatsoeuer, throwne into the Ponds morning and euening.

Chap. 18.

Of the best Water-Lime.

THe best water Lime that can be made, and which will most surely hold within the water, is to take a pound of the strongest Bird-lime, and wash it in nine running waters, vntil there be no hardnesse in it, and then beat out the water cleane, and drie it. Which done put it into an earthen pot, and adde thereto as much Capons grease as wil make it runne, two spoonefull of strong Vinegar, a very little Lampe-oyle, and Venice Turpentine, and boile them all gently together vppon a soft fire, stirring it continually. Then take it from the fire, and let it coole, then at any time when you meane to vse it, warme it, and then annoynt eyther your Rods, Bushes, Strawes, or Lines, and no water wil take away the strength.

OF

Of the fighting Cocke.

Chap. 19.

Of the Choyce, Ordering, Breeding, and Dyeting of the fighting-Cocke for Battell.

Since there is no pleasure more Noble, Delightsome, or voide of couzenage and deceite then this pleasure of Cocking is: & since many of the best wisedomes of our Nation haue beene pleased to participate with the delights therein, I thinke it not amisse, as well for the instruction of those which are vnexperienced, as fortifying of them which haue some Knowledge therein, to declare in a few Lines the *Election*, *Breeding*, and *Secrets* of dyeting the fighting Cocke, which hauing bin hitherto concealed and vnwritten of, is (for our pleasure sake) as worthy a generall knowledge as any delight whatsoeuer.

The choyce of the Cocke for Battle.

To speake then first of the choise of the fighting-Cocke, you shal vnderstand that the best Carracters you can obserue in him, is the *Shape*, *Colour*, *Courage*, and *sharpe-heele*: for his shape the middle & indifferent size

is euer accounted beſt, becauſe they be euer moſt match able, ſtrong, nimble, and ready for your pleaſure, where as the huge Cocke (which we cal the turne-Pocke) is euer hard to find his equall, beſides he is lubberly, and affording ſmal pleaſure in his battle: and ſo the exceeding little Cocke is as hard to match, and is commonly weak and tedious in his manner of fighting. He would be of a proud and vpright ſhape, with a ſmal head, like vnto a Spar-hawke, a quicke large eye, and a ſtrong beake, crookt and bigge at the ſetting on, and in colour ſutable to the plume of his Feathers, as blacke, yellow, or reddiſh. The beame of his legge would bee very ſtrong, and according to his Plume, blew, gray or yellow: his ſpurres long, rough, and ſharpe, a little bending and looking inward.

For his colour, the gray pyle, the yellow pyle, or the red with the blacke breſt, is eſteemed the beſt: the pide is not ſo good, and the white and dunne are the worſt. If he be red about the head, like skarlet, it is a ſigne of luſt, ſtrength, and courage, but if he be pale it is a ſigne of ſickneſſe and faintneſſe.

For his courage, you ſhal obſerue it in his walke, by his treading, and the pride of his going, and in his pen, by his oft crowing. For the ſharpneſſe of his heele, or as Cocke maiſters call it, the narrow heele, it is onely ſeene in his fighting, for that cocke is ſayd to be ſharpe heeld, or narrow heeld, which euery time he riſeth hitteth, and draweth blood of his aduerſary, guilding (as they tearme it) his ſpurres in blood, and threatning at euery blow an end of the battle.

And theſe cockes are ſurely of great eſtimation, for the beſt cocke-ſtaiſters are of opinion, that a ſharpe heeld cocke, though hee be a little falſe, is much bet-

ter then the trueſt cocke which hath a dull heele, and hitteth ſeldome, for though the one fight long yet he ſeldome wounds, and the other though he will not indure the vttermoſt hewing, yet hee makes a very ſuddaine and quicke diſpatch of his buſineſſe, for euery blow put his aduerſary in danger.

But that cocke which is both aſſuredly hard, and alſo very ſharpe heeld, he is to be eſteemed, and is of the moſt account aboue all other, and therefore in your generall Election chuſe him which is of a ſtrong ſhape, good colour, true valour, and of a moſt ſharpe and ready heele.

The breeding of the battle Cocke.

Now for the breeding of theſe cockes for the battle, it is much different from thoſe of the dunghill, for they are like Birds of prey, in which the female is euer to be preferred and eſteemed before the Male, and ſo in the breed of theſe Birds, you muſt be ſure that your Henne be right, that is to ſay, ſhe muſt bee of a right plume, as gray, griſſell, ſpeckt, or yellowiſh, blacke or brown is not amiſſe: ſhe muſt be kindly vnto her yong, of large body, well poaked behind for large Egges, and well tufted on the crowne, which ſhewes courage: if ſhee haue weapons ſhe is better, but for her valour it muſt be excellent, for if there be any ſpot of cowardiſe in her, the chickens cannot be true.

And it is a note amongſt the beſt breeders, that the perfect Henne from a Dunghil-cocke, will bring a good chicken, but the beſt cocke from a Dunghill Hen can neuer get a good Bird: and I haue knowne in mine own Experience, that the two famouſeſt cockes that euer fought in theſe dayes, the one called *Noble*, the other *Griſſell*, begot on many ill Hennes very badde cockes, but the moſt famous Henne *Iinkes*, neuer brought

foorth

forth ill Bird, how bad ſoeuer her Cocke were.

Hauing then vnto p rfect Cockes got perfect Hennes, (for that is the beſt breeding) you ſhall know that the beſt ſeaſon of the yeare to breed in, is from the increaſe of the Moone in *February*, to the increaſe of the Moone in *March*, for one *March* Bird is euer better worth then three at any other ſeaſon. You ſhall place her Penne in which ſhee ſitteth, to ſtand warme, and to make her bedde of ſoft and ſweete ſtraw, for they be much tenderer then the Dunghils are, neyther ſhall you ſuffer any other Fowle to come in her view where ſhee ſits, for it will moue her to diſpleaſure, and make her to endanger her Egges.

You ſhall alſo obſerue in her ſitting, whether ſhee be buſie to turne her Egges (which is a good ſigne in a Henne) and if ſhee be ſlacke you ſhall helpe her at ſuch times as ſhee riſeth from her neſt, and euer be ſure that when ſhe commeth from her neſt, to haue meate and water ready for her, leaſt being forced to ſeeke her foode, ſhe ſuffer her Egges to coole too much: alſo, you ſhall haue Sand, Grauell, and fine ſifted aſhes in the roome where ſhe ſitteth, in which they may bathe and trimme herſelfe, at her pleaſure.

After one and twenty dayes is the time of their hatching, and if when they are new hatched, ſhe doe neglect to couer and keepe the firſt warme till the reſt be diſcloſed, you ſhall obſerue her, and take thoſe that are firſt opened, and lapping them in warme Wooll, lay them within the ayre of the fire till the reſt be hatcht, and then put them all vnder her, and keeping both the Henne and them exceeding warme, for they be ſo tender that the leaſt cold will kill them, and ſuffer neither

them

them nor the Henne to goe abroad into the ayre till they be a moneth old: and let them haue store of food, as Oate-meale, Cheese parings, Chilter-wheat, and such like, and a large roome to walke in, the floore being boarde for the earth floore is too moyst, and the plaster-floare too cold.

After they are a moneth old, you shall let them walke in some grasse court, or greene place, where they may haue store of wormes but by all meanes be sure there be no stinking puddles of water in it, no sinkes, nor filthy Channells, for it is the greatest poyson that can be to Birds of this nature, and breedeth those diseases which are most mortall: if euery morning before they goe forth, you perfume them and their roome with Rosemary, or Peny-royal burnt, it is a great preseruation against all those infirmityes, or to choppe Leeke blades amongst theyr meate is very good also.

In this sort you shal nourish them till you may distinguish the Cocke-Chicken from the Henne, and then seeing theyr Combes or Wattels but appeare, you shall cut them away, and so annoynt the sore with sweete Butter till it be whole. This will make them haue fine, small, slender, and smooth heads, whereas to suffer the Combe to growe to his bignesse, and then cut it away, it will make him haue a goury thicke head, with great lumpes: neyther is the fluxe of bloud wholesome, for the least losse of bloud in a feathered fowle, is exceeding mortall, and very dangerous.

You shall suffer your Cocke-Chickens to goe together with their Hennes till they beginne to fight, and pecke one at another, but then you shall seperate them;

and

and dispierce them into seuerall walkes, and that walke is the best for a fighting Cocke which is fartheſt from resort, as at Winde-milles or Water-milles, Grange-houses, and such like, where he may liue with his Hens without the offence or company of other Cocks, Lodges in Parkes are also good, and so are Conie-warrens, onely they are a little too much haunted with vermine, and that is dangerous, let the feeding-place for your Cockes bee vpon soft dry ground, or vpon boardes, for to feede vpon paued earth, or on Plaster floares will make theyr beakes weake, blunt, and not apt to hold fast. Any white Corne is good foode for a Cocke in his walke, and so are tostes or crusts of breade steeped in drinke, or mans vrine, for it will both scowre and coole them inwardly.

If your Chickens beginne to crow (not being sixe moneths old) cleare and lowde, or at vnseasonable times, doe not esteeme them, for it is an apparant signe of cowardise and falshood: for the true Cocke is very long before hee get his voyce, and when hee hath it, hee obserues his howres with the best iudgement. Vnto your fighting Cocke three Hennes are sufficient, fiue are with the most, for they are so hotte of nature and will treade so much, that they soone consume theyr naturall strength.

A Cocke would not be put to the battell before he be two yeeres old, at which time he is perfect and compleate in euery member, for to suffer him to fight when his spurres are but warts, you may well know his courage, but neuer his goodnesse.

You must also haue an especiall care to the Perch whereon your Cocke sitteth when hee roosteth, for

for, if it be too ſmall in the grype, or crooked, or ſo ill placed that he cannot ſit but he muſt ſtradle with his legges, any of theſe faults will make him vneuen heeld, and whatſoeuer he was naturally, yet by this accident, he will neuer be good ſtriker. for the making of the Perch, eyther maketh or marreth the Cocke, therefore to preuent this fault, the beſt way is to haue in your rouſt a row of little Perches, not aboue ſeauen or eight inches in length, and not a foote from the ground, ſo that your Cocke may with eaſe goe vp to them, and being ſet, muſt of force haue his legges ſtand neere together, it is a rule that he which is a cloſe ſitter is euer a narrow ſtriker.

Let the footſtoole of the Perch be round and ſmooth, and about the bigneſſe of a mans arme. Yet for your better knowledge, becauſe words cannot ſo well expreſſe theſe quantities, it ſhall not be amiſſe for you to goe to ſome famous Cocke-maſters houſe and view the Perches which are within his feeding pennes, and according to thoſe proportions frame your owne, for the Perch is the making and ſpoyling of any Cocke whatſoeuer.

Againe, you muſt be carefull, that when your Cocke doth leape from his Perch, that the ground be ſoft whereon he lighteth, for if it be hard or rough, it will make your Cocke grow goury, and put forth knots vpon his feete.

Now laſtly, for the dyeting and ordering of a Cock for a battell, which is a ſecret, yet neuer divulged, but kept cloſe in the breaſts of ſome few, and for as much as in it onely conſiſteth all the ground and ſubſtance of the pleaſure, the beſt Cocke vndieted, not being able to encounter with the worſt Cocke that is dyeted: you

The dyeting of Cockes for the battell.

you shall vnderstand, that the time to take vp your Cockes is at the latter end of *August* (for from that time till the latter end of *May*, Cocking is in request) and hauing viewed them well, and see that they are sound, hard feathered, and full summed, you shall put them into seuerall pens, the models whereof you may behold in euery Cocke-masters or Inne-keepers house, hauing a mouing Perch in it, to set at which corner of the pen you please.

Of taking vp Cockes.

Of the Cocke Pen.

This pen would be made of very close boards, well ioyned together all but the forefront, which would be made open, like a grate, one Barre two inches distant from another, and before the grate two large Troughes of soft wood one for his meate, the other for his water. The doore of the grate would be made to lift vp and downe, of such largenesse that you may with ease put your Cocke in and out, and dayly cleanse the pen to keepe it sweet and wholesome.

The pen would be at least three foot in hight, and two foote in square euery way, and many of them may bee ioyned in one front, according to the bignesse of the roome, in which they are built: and also one aboue another, onely with ouer shadowing boards, so that one Cocke may not see another.

Of his dyet.

When your Cocke, as aforesaid, is put vp into his Pen, you shall for three or foure dayes feede him onely with old Manchet, the crust pared away, and cut into little square bits, and you shall giue him to the quantity of a good handfull at a time, and you shall feede him three times in the day, that is to say, at Sun rise, at high noone, and at Sunne set. You shall euer let him haue before him the finest, coldest, and sweetest Springe-Water that you can get.

After

After he hath beene thus fedde foure dayes, and his Corne, Wormes, Grauell, and other courſe feeding him in the Morning, take him out of the Pen, and another Cocke alſo, and putting a payre of Hots vpon each of their heeles, which Hots are ſoft bumbaſted roules of Leather, couering their Spurres, ſo that they cannot hurt or bruiſe one another, and ſo ſetting them downe on the greene graſſe, let them fight and buffet one another a good ſpace, as long as in their teaching they doe not wound or draw bloud one vpon another: and this is called the ſparring of Cockes: it heateth and chafeth theyr bodies, and it breaketh the fat and glut, which is within them, and maketh it apt to cleanſe and come away. Of Sparring of Cockes.

After your Cockes haue ſparred ſufficiently, and that you ſee them pant and grow weary, you ſhall take them vp, and taking off their Hots, you muſt haue deepe ſtraw baskets made for the purpoſe, with ſweete ſoft ſtraw to the middle, and then putting in your Cocke, couer him with ſweete ſtraw vp to the top, and then lay on the lidde cloſe, and there let your Cocke ſtoue and ſweate till the Euening.

But yet before you put him into the ſtoue, you ſhall take Butter and Roſemary finely chopt, and white Sugar candy, all mixt thgether, and giue him a lumpe thereof, as much as your thumbe, and then let him ſweate, for the nature of this ſcowring is to bring away his greaſe, and to breed breath and ſtrength. You may in time of neceſſity for want of theſe ſtraw baskets ſtow your Cocke in a Cocke-bagge, by laying ſtraw both vnder and aboue him, but it is not ſo good, becauſe the Ayre hath more power to paſſe thorow it.

After

Of the best dyet breau.

After foure of the clocke in the Euening, you may take your Cocke out of the ſtoue, and licking his head and eyes all ouer with your tongue, put him into his Penne, and then taking a good handful of bread, ſmal cut, put it into his trough, and then piſſing into the the trough, alſo giue it him to eate, ſo as he may take his bread out of the warme vrine, for this will make his ſcouring worke, and cleanſe both his head and body wonderfully.

Now you ſhall vnderſtand, that the bread which you ſhall giue him at this time, and at all other times during his dyeting ſhall not be Mauncher; but a ſpeciall bread made for the purpoſe, in this manner: you ſhall take of wheat-meale halfe a Pecke, and of fine oate-meale-flower as much, and mixing them together kneade them into a ſtiffe paſte, with Ale, the white of a dozen Egges, and halfe a pound of Butter, and hauing wrought the dowe exceeding well, make it into broad thinne cakes, and being three or foure dayes old, and the blifterings of the outſide cut away, cut it into little ſquare bits, and giue it the Cocke.

There be ſome others that in this Bread will mixe Lycoras, Annis-ſeedes, and other hote Spices, and will alſo in the Cocke water ſteepe ſlices of Lycoras, but it is not commendable, for it is both vnnatural and vnwholeſome, and maketh a Cocke ſo hot at the heart, that when hee comes to the latter end of a battle, he is ſuffocated and ouercome with his owne heat: therefore I aduiſe all men of iudgement, to take that for the beſt dyet which is moſt naturall, and leaſt contrary vnto the Fowles ordinary feeding.

But to returne to my former Diſcourſe, after you haue fedde your Cocke thus for all night, you ſhall the

next

next day let him rest, and onely giue him his ordinary feedings of Bread and Water, then the next day (which is the second day after his sparring) you shall take him into a fayre euen greene Close, and there setting him downe, hauing some Dunghill-Cocke in your armes you shall shew it him and so runne from him, and entice him to follow you, and so chase vp and downe halfe an houre at the least, suffering him now and then to haue a stroke at the Dunghill-Cocke. And when you see that he is well heated and panteth, you shall take him vp and beare him into your Cock-house, and there first giue him this scouring: Take of Butter, which hath noe salt, halfe a pound, and beate it in a Morter with the leaues of Hearbe of Grace, Isop, and Rosemary, till the Hearbes cannot be perceiued, and that the Butter is brought to a greene Salue, and of this giue the Cock a roule or two, as bigge as your thumbe, and then stone him in the basket, as is before sayd, till Euening, and then feed as was formerly declared.

The next day you shall let him rest and feede, and the next day after you shall sparre him againe, and thus euery other day for the first fortnight, you shall either sparre or chase your Cocke, which are the most naturallest and kindliest heates that you can giue him, and after euery beate you shall giue him a scouring: for this will breake and cleanse from him all grease, glut, and filthinesse, which lying in his body, makes him purfle, faint, and not able to stand out the latter end of a battell.

Hauing fedde your Cocke thus the first fortnight, the second fortnight you shall also feede him in the same manner; and with the same food, but you shall

not ſparre him, or giue him heates aboue twice in a week at the moſt, in ſo much that thrice or foure times in the fortnight will be ſufficient, and each time you ſhall ſtoue and ſcoure him, according to the nature of his heats, that is to ſay, if you heate him much you ſhall ſtoue him long, and giue him of your ſcouring the greater quantity: if you finde that he is in good breath and needeth but ſlight heates, then you ſhall ſtoue him the leſſe while, and giue him the leſſe of the ſcowring.

Now to the third fortnight, which maketh vp the ſixe weekes compleat, (being a time ſufficient to prepare a Cocke for his battell) you ſhall feede him as foreſayd, but you ſhall not ſparre him at all, for feare of making his head tender or ſore, neither giue him any violent exerciſe, but onely twice or thrice in the fortnight moderately, let him runne and chaſe vp and downe, to maintaine his winde, and now and then cuffe a Cocke which you ſhall holde to him in your hands, which done, you ſhall giue him his ſcouring well rould in the pouder of Sugar-Candy, white or browne, but browne is the better, for the Cocke then being come to perfect breath, and hauing no filth in his body for the ſcouring to worke on, it will worke and cauſe operation vpon the vitall parts, and make the Cocke ſicke, which the Sugar-Candy will preuent, and ſtrengthen nature againſt the medicine.

After the end of ſixe weekes feeding, finding your Cocke in luſt and breath, you may fight him at your pleaſure, obſeruing that he haue at leaſt three dayes reſt before he fight, and well emptied of his meate before you bring him into the Pit.

Now when you bring him into the Pit to fight, you must haue an especiall care to the matching of him, for in that Art consisteth the greatest glory of the Cocke-master, for what auaileth it to feede him euer so well, if in the matching you giue that aduantage which ouerthroweth all your former labour? Therefore in your matching there are two thinges to be considered: that is, the length of Cocks, and the strength of Cocks: for if your aduersary Cocke be too long, yours shall hardly catch his head, and then he can neither indanger eye or life: and if he be the stronger, he will ouer beare your Cocke, and not suffer him to rise, and strike with any aduantage: therefore for the knowledge of these two rules, though experience be the best Tutor, yet the first, which is length, you shall iudge by your eye, when you gripe the Cocke about the waste, and make him shut out his legs, in which posture you shall see the vtmost of his hight, and so compare them in your iudgment. Now for his strength, which is known by the thicknesse of his body, for that Cocke is euer helde the strongest which is largest in the garth, you shall know it by the measure of his hands, gryping the Cocke about from the points of your great fingers, to the ioynts of your thumbes, and eyther of these aduantages by no meanes giue to your aduersary, but if you doubt losse in the one, yet be sure to gaine in the other: for the weake long Cocke will rise at more ease, and the short strong Cocke will giue the surer blow, so that because all Cocks are not cast into a mould, there may be a reconciliation of the aduantages, yet by all meanes giue as little as you can.

The matching of Cockes.

When your Cocke is equally matcht, you shall thus

Of preparing cockes to the fight.

prepare him to the fight, first with a paire of fine Cocke sheares you shall cut all his Maine off, close vnto his necke, euen from his head vnto the setting on of his shoulders, then you shall clip off all the Feathers from his tayle close vnto his Rumpe: where, the more skarlet that you see his Rumpe, in the better estate of body the Cocke is. Then you shall take his wings, and spreading them foorth by the length of the first feather of his wing, clip the rest slope wise with sharpe points, that in his rising he may therewith indanger the eyes of his aduersary: then with a sharpe knife you shal scrape smooth, and sharpen his Beake, then shal you smooth and sharpen his spurs.

The ordring of cockes after battle, and the curing them.

Lastly, you shall see that there be no feathers about the crowne of his Head for his Foe to take hold on, and then with your spittle moistning his head all ouer, turne him into the Pit to prooue his Fortune: When the battle is ended the first thing you do, you shall search his wounds, and as many as you can finde, you shall with your mouth sucke the blood out of them, then Wash them very wel with warme Vrine, to keep them from Ranckling, and then presently giue him a roule or two of your best scouring, and so stoue him vp as hote as you can, both with sweete straw and blankerring in a close Basket for all that night, then in the morning take him foorth, and if his head be much sweld, you shall sucke his Wounds againe, and bathe them with warme Vrine, then hauing in a fine bagge the powder of the Hearbe *Robert*, well dryed, and finely seirst, pounce all the sore places therewith, and then giue the cocke a good handfull of Bread to eare out of Warme vrine, and so put him into the stous againe, in the same

manner

manner as before mentioned, and by no meanes let him feele the ayre vntil all the ſwelling be gone, but twice a day ſucke his wounds, dreſſe him, and feede him, as is aforeſayd.

But if hee haue received any hurt, or blemiſh in his Eye, then you ſhall take a leafe or two of right ground Iuye, not that which runneth along the ground, and is of the ignorant ſo called, but that which growes in little tufts in the bottome of hedges, and is a little rough leafe, and hauing chewde it very well in your mouth, and ſuckt out the iuyce, ſpit it into the eye of the cock, and it will not onely cure it of any wound, or any blow in the Eye, where the ſight is not pierced, but alſo defend it from the breeding of Filmes, Hawes, Warts, or any ſuch other infirmities, which quite deſtroy the ſight; Obſeruing that you doe not ceaſe to dreſſe the Eye therewith ſo long as you ſhall perceiue any blemiſh therein.

Now if your Cocke haue in his ſight veined himſelfe eyther by narrow ſtriking, or other croſſe blow, you ſhall find out the wound, and preſently binde thereunto the fine ſoft doune of a Hare, and it will both ſtaunch it and cure it.

For any other cauſuall infirmity or ſickneſſe which ſhal happen vnto Cockes, looke in the former Booke called *Cheape and Good*, and you ſhall finde them ſet downe at Large, onely I will giue you this one ſmall remembrance, that after you haue put foorth your wounded Cockes to their walkes, and come to viſite them a moneth or two after, if you finde about their heads any ſwelleth bunches, hard, and blackiſh at one end, you ſhal know that in ſuch bunches are vnſound

chores: Therefore presently with your Knife you shall open the same, and crush out the chores with your thumbs, then with your mouth sucke out all the corruption, and then fill the holes full of fresh Butter, and it will cure them. And thus much for the nature of the Cocke, and how to keepe him for his best vse.

The end of the first Booke.

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